

In November We Remember...



November 1992

vol. 89 no. 1553

50 Cents

Recycling Workers IU 670

Berkeley Recyclers New Contract

We are the laborers whose backs and energy diverts the bulk of recyclables sorted by Berkeley residents. Our first contract was signed in 1989, when the Ecology Center was contemplating upgraded equipment, expansion, and a decent working wage (thanks to the IWW). Our pride and satisfaction in our work is great. Like many Wobbly shops the employing class were uncomfortably compassionate and understanding. Naturally this only deepened the challenge.

A second, improved contract was won through negotiation in 1990-91. As our second contract neared its expiry date, Ecology Center management asked for an extension, pending the outcome of funding negotiations with the City of Berkeley. Gathered at the local bar, IU 670 workers voted in 2 languages not to extend the 90-91 contract.

The second contract was due to expire Hallowe'en, and when management did not respond with a clear offer we began to discuss taking action. Actual behaviors were eventually muted and toned down. Our demonstrations of crew solidarity produced promises of understanding and pleas for patience. Hallowe'en swept by with no agreement.

There were in all, 3 strike votes. We showed patience when we did not walk out despite our righteous anger at what seemed to be shilly-shallying. We felt that our labor is the only product the recycling program has to offer -- not hearings and graphs. Every on-the-job injury soon felt like an insult.

Negotiating sessions finally yielded an interim agreement that increased the crew's medical benefits. After we signed it, we started to feel familiar with management again. We had been convinced that we need only wait for the city funding to come through and

all would be well. A second interim agreement was signed. Time does not heal all things. Union meetings shrank to sad, two-pitcher affairs. Suspicions of shilly-shallying on the part of the management resurfaced. Negotiating sessions became tense, and our polemical manifestos spun out of control.

The most annoying pseudo-tactic of our employer (organizers take note) was their attachment to the bottom line. Not just logically, but rhetorically. We kept suggesting that the negotiations be confined to non-financial contract items until the city stopped fooling around, and they swore there was no such thing. So the process stalled again and again. We had months of "urgent" Union meetings that had little chance of accomplishing anything.

The City of Berkeley finally approved a 7-1/2 year funding contract with the Ecology Center, worth \$9.75 million. This should have been the only obstacle between us and our third contract, management's attitude did not improve like we thought it would. Much haggling ensued over line items like raises -- we didn't want to accept their 5%, but finally did when they offered to make it retroactive to the expiration of our previous contract (Oct.91). These retroactive "bonuses" have mollified everyone considerably.

Next year's contract negotiations look to be even tougher. Several concessions made by the Union this year will be back on the table next summer. Management can no longer use the City as an excuse. For now, we must find other things to argue about over pitchers of Pale Ale and carnitas. (WILDCAT/SF Bay Area IWW Oct.92)

Microchip Workers: 1 in 3 Suffer Miscarriages

A recent IBM-sponsored study of health and safety in company "clean rooms" showed highly elevated rates of miscarriages for women chip workers.

The IBM study--originally commissioned in 1987--was initiated after a similar study at Digital Equipment (DEC) found increased rates of miscarriages for chip production workers at their Massachusetts facility.

The results of these studies confirm what many workers and health and safety experts have said for a long time. "For over 10 years, we have been trying to warn people to replace glycol ethers because of their reproductive hazards," said Amanda Hawes of Santa Clara Ctr. for Occupational Safety and Health. "But the electronics industry has been

stalling until there is a body count. It is particularly upsetting, because most of the people at risk are women, and most of the decision makers are men."

"The Semiconductor industry has steadfastly attempted to downplay health hazards in the chip industry," said Rand Wilson, director of Campaign for Responsible Technology (CRT) a national network of community, environmental and labor groups. "At the same time as the Semiconductor Industry Association (SIA) attacked the credibility of the DEC study, an industry "white paper" attempted to assure policy makers and the press that internal measures were sufficient to deal with the problem. Clearly they are not."

Slave Labor in the USA

When flight attendants voted to honor Machinists' picketlines during the week-long strike against US Air, a federal judge quickly ordered them back to work under federal anti-labor laws - even though federal law explicitly guarantees transport workers the right to honor picket lines.

(The pilots union apparently never even considered honoring picketlines, and so the company was able to maintain the majority of its scheduled flights by deferring maintenance. Workers on US Air's lucrative shuttle and commuter runs are covered under separate contracts and so were legally barred from striking. Had the strike continued, US Air planned to draw upon mechanics from British Airways, which is in the process of buying 21% of US Air.)

Mechanics ended up agreeing to hundreds of millions of dollars in concessions to end the strike; no doubt other airlines will soon point to these concessions in the effort to further reduce wages throughout the industry.

Across the US, judges are signing back-to-work orders, outlawing solidarity strikes, and even seeking to ban work-to-rule campaigns. Meanwhile, when employers shut down operations in mid-contract, throwing workers out of their jobs, the injunction judges are nowhere to be seen.

If workers strike to force employers to increase payments to their pension plans, the injunction judges are on the job. But when employers slash pension

benefits or loot pension plans to pad corporate profits, the law is nowhere to be found.

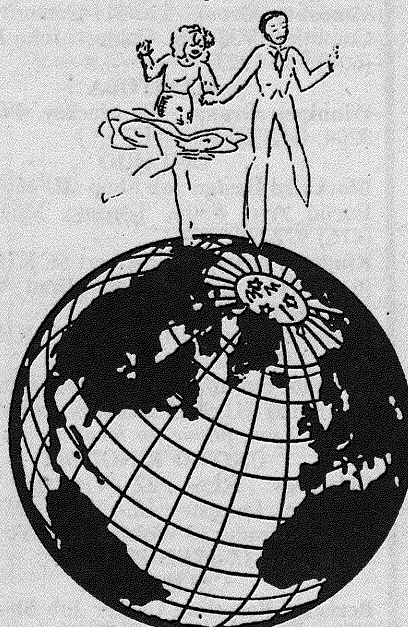
When employers find themselves short of cash, bankruptcy court judges have allowed them to slash contracted wages and benefits, and to get out of back pay owed our fellow workers. But you know what would happen if workers told one of these judges, "I'm sorry, but we just can't afford to work for the wages our contract calls for. We've decided they'll just have to be raised 20 percent so we can meet our obligations." Nothing doing.

Under U.S. anti-labor law, as the courts have interpreted it for the past 25 years or more, we are little more than slaves. We can withhold our labor only if the courts say its ok - and only if we won't inconvenience the employing class too much.

It's absolutely against the law to honor a picketline, though you'll be hard-pressed to find such a law in writing; but employers are allowed to shut down their plants - in effect, a strike by capital (such as during the recent national rail lock-out) - to increase pressure on the unions.

If we cannot withhold our labor, if we cannot refuse to work with scabs, if we cannot support out fellow workers in their efforts to gain better conditions, if we cannot control the conditions under which we work - if we are denied these basic rights, can we be said to be anything more than slaves?

It's a Big, Wide Wobbly World!



Entertainment Workers
Industrial Union No. 630
Industrial IWW Workers
of the World

Buskin' Bureaucracy Bullshit

Buskin is a free-spirited tradition, with a long history, from medieval times to the 1990's. It seems as economics fluctuate so does the repression and the popularity in buskin. When employment is low, more and more people try it for extra money.

During this recession, a lot of Musicians, who are already played against each other for the "privilege" of playing in clubs, have taken to playing on the streets.

It seems the merchants figure we make a fortune out of our case and "should pay our fair share". But a busker's salary in the case is open to public view, in other words, s/he is accountable. The merchants are usually reluctant to disclose their incomes in front of the crowd. These bosses always say the same thing, "That's none of your business get a job." But it is my business and I'm an entertainment worker. People that appreciate the music make their pockets a bit lighter and we make their day a bit brighter, that's all! Besides buskers have been around much longer than beer stores, or their adverts or corporate sponsorships.

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Letters

Dear FWs,

It is hard to come by facts and truths these days. Particularly when a government such as ours has been run by a gang of thieves for the past 12 years, proudly calling themselves "Republicans." And there are some Democrats filling their pockets at the taxpayers expense as well.

I write seldom, but I do get calls to do so. People are afraid to express themselves or to sign their name if they do. Here are a few things I may write up, if the Senate don't adhere to a letter I sent to D.C.

USAFD, an agency of the federal gov't., subsidizes any and all American companies and corp's that wish to relocate in a foreign country. They are loaned the taxpayers' dollars to do so at 2 points below prime! This has been going on for 12 years. You may know the rest.

The sooner the American people realize that wars are all for the benefit of big business, the sooner there will be no wars. The facts are this: We have yet to win a war since WWI. Big business shuts any war down as soon as enough destruction has been wrought. It's "Destroy and Rebuild". All at the expense of the people.

Regarding Ross Perot, he is only a power broker. Unfit to be president. He cost GM \$750 million in but a few months. Give him 4 years in the white house, the \$4 trillion we're now in debt would seem like pennies from heaven. Every man, woman and child in the USA now owes \$800 each just to pay the interest on the present debt. By election time we'll be calling it a

"depression," no matter how many tax dollars King George gives away trying to buy votes!

People like myself and at our age shouldn't give a damn what happens. But, if we don't, *and it's that bad*, the unborn will still be paying off during their entire life time.

For anyone's consideration, I was a union member for 30 years. During that time, I played pro-ball for 17 years during the season. Because of Hitler, I joined the British Red Devils (paratroopers). Then the 82nd Airborne when the US entered that war. I was shot up and taken prisoner during the Battle of the Bulge. Rescued months later by the Irish Desert Rats (tank force). The Germans left me for dead, still shot up, yellow jaundice weighing 96 lbs. There is more, but I'll cut it off with this. The reason I and others were taken prisoners was we were shot up by our own P-51's!

-Denzil Fields Sayers, Col., Ret. MIA-POW, British Red Devils & 82nd Airborne Div.

On the Dynamite Deaths of Scabs

It had to happen somewhere, where scabs have foolishly summoned the courage to steal a union person's livelihood. If left unchecked, such stealing will dissolve the working class solidarity which more than anything else has gained workers the living standards we are trying to uphold without having to look over our shoulder for a scab ready to take our job when contract time arrives.

The lessons to be learned from the Giant Yellowknife mine explosion should not even have to be spelled out. First, anti-scab legislation or union

policies serve to protect the integrity of bargaining units and also to protect the safety of all concerned. Second, anti-scab measures prevent union members and their supporters in struggle against unwise, ruthless employers, from being forced to disrupt scab workplaces. All who have the power to prevent the use of scabs in struck workplaces should do what they can to prevent the repetition of the circumstances that led to the destruction of nine so-called replacement workers in Yellowknife. - 30- (portions deleted-ed)

IW:

I want to thank you for sending the Industrial Worker to Leavenworth penitentiary. Every issue contains relevant information for many of the 1,600 prisoners here.

Your letter from Ms. Aris, doing a 15 to life sentence in California, caught our attention. Very few of us in here are innocent of our crime. We just didn't have the money to buy adequate legal representation to reduce our sentences or get us off scott free. Ms. Aris obviously didn't have a good lawyer, either. In this country, without money you're a second class citizen and expendable. There are almost one million incarcerated men and women in the US who are proof of that.

Jim B.

Dear Editor:

We do, as you suggest, have a fair collection of information regarding the IWW. The best references I can suggest are as follows:

1. Ginger - Life and death of Albert Goodwin, by Susan Mayse, Harbour Pub. (\$24.95)

2. Mine Mill - History of International Union of Mine Mill & Smelter Workers since 1895. (\$17.95)

3. Never Say Die - John Stanton (\$14.95)

4. Boss Whistle - by Lynn Bowen (\$16.95)

These are all available at the Cumberland Museum. If ordering please include a couple of dollars to assist with postage.

We are presently researching all newspapers published in Cumberland 1897 to 1931 inclusive. This information will hopefully be available early in the new year, although some editors of the papers seemed to often overlook "union" activity.

The Cumberland Museum is open daily 9 to 5. If you have a researcher in this area, we would be pleased to assist in any way possible. There will be other information available in our archival and document files.

Yours truly,
Barbara Lemky, Curator
Cumberland & District Historical Society, PO Box 258 Cumberland BC Canada V0R 1S0. Tel: (604)336-2445 Fax:336-2455

Greetings,

In solidarity, to all involved with the Industrial Workers of the World, from a place of incarceration over here in England. I have just recently been introduced to the August issue...A member of the staff here on the special unit thought I might like to write to you. A member from the education dept. in fact.

After what was to me a refreshing read, I decided to put pen to paper and tell you about my situation.

On the 10 of May 1989 I entered the

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Industrial Worker

World News Monthly
of the
Working Class



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IWW Directory

For those unfamiliar with the IWW, we offer these definitions: Job Shop: IWW-organized group of workers at a particular workplace, either worker-owned, or owned by the bosses. GMB: General Membership Branch, a chartered branch of members linked by locale, rather than workplace. IWW Group: IWW members in the same locale, not large enough to be a GMB. IU: Industrial Union number assigned to a particular industry. Delegate: member authorized to collect dues and to sign up new members.

AUSTRALIA
NEW SOUTH WALES
Jura Books -110 Crystal St, Petersham, Sydney
Sydney Area Group -Delegate: Ray Elbourne, Cnr. Dittons Ln. & Old Illawara Hwy, Sutton Forest 2577.

VICTORIA
Melbourne Area Group - PO Box 1738Q GPO, Melbourne, Victoria 3001.

CANADA
BRITISH COLUMBIA
Eastside Datagraphics Job Shop (IU 450) -1460 Commercial Dr, Vancouver V5L 3X9, (604) 255-9559

SE BC IWW Group - PO Box 54, Balfour, V0G 1C0. Contact: David Everest (604) 229-4978

Vancouver Group - 110-511 Gatensbury St, Coquitlam V3J SE7. Contact: John Barker (604) 936-1927

MANITOBA
Winnipeg Group - B. Mackay, PO Box 3204, GNPO, R3C 4E7

ONTARIO
Blackbird Design Job Shop (IU 450) - 394 Euclid Ave #301, Toronto M6G 2S9 (416) 972-6293

Kingston Group -472 Albert St. K7L 3W3 (613) 544-2382. Delegate: Brad Waugh (613) 549-6094

Ottawa Group-POB 4217 Stn E, K1S 5B2, (613) 231-2922

Toronto Group -11 Andrews Ave, M6J 1S2. (416) 941-9945 Meetings 1st Thurs. of month 7 pm; phone for location.

UNITED KINGDOM
Delegates: F.Lee 22 Vicarage Lane, Belgrave, Leicester LE4 5PD (053)366-1835; D.Czunys 13 Wolsley, York YO15BQ.

UNITED STATES
CALIFORNIA

Berkeley Recycling Center Job Shop (IU 670) - M. Carlstroem 2515 Piedmont #8, 94607

IWW Local 1/Mendocino-Humboldt GMB-Delegates: Melissa Roberts, PO Box 2805 Ft. Bragg CA 95437 (707)964-8164; Judi Bari, PO Box 656 Willits CA 95490 (msg. 707)468-1660; Herb Jager, 114 E. Laurel, Ft. Bragg CA 95437 (707)937-3457.

Greater Los Angeles GMB -Delegate: Andrew Willett, 1355 Hilda #5, Glendale

CA 91205
New Earth Press Job Shop (IU 450)- 1640 Addison, Berkeley 94702. Delegate: Dave Karoly (510) 549-0176.

Riverside Group - Delegate: Kathy Light (714) 369-9799

San Francisco Bay Area GMB - 1095 Market St. #204, 94103. (415) 863-WOBS
San Diego Group - RMR Kroopkin, 2675 Fletcher Pkwy #211, El Cajon 92020. (619) 460-2907

Typesetting Etc. Job Shop (IU 450) - 1095 Market St. #210, San Francisco 94103
UCB Recyclers, Industrial Union 620 Branch-620 Eshleman, Berkeley 94720. Delegate: Daniel Widener.

COLORADO
Denver/Boulder GMB - 2412 E. Colfax, Denver 80206. (303) 388-1065. Office open Sat. 9-12. Meetings 2nd Thurs. of month 7 pm. Delegate: Cliff Sundstrom, 910 E. 8th Ave. #202, Denver 80218. (313) 832-7602.
P&L Printing Job Shop (IU 450)- 2298 Clay, Denver 80211. (303) 433-1852

FLORIDA
Delegate: J. Lewis, 345 Ocean Dr. #1103, Miami Beach 33139

GEORGIA
Atlanta Group - 340 Elmira Pl, 30307. (404) 524-1243

HAWAII
Honolulu Group- Delegate: D. Goldsmith, Box 469 University Stn. Honolulu 96822

IDAHO
Boise Group - Delegate: W. Cohan, 1104 Highland St, 83706-3312. (208) 343-1699

ILLINOIS
Chicago GMB -(New World Resource Ctr) 1476 Irving Park, 60613. (312) 549-5045. Meetings, 1st Friday 7:30 pm.

LOUISIANA
New Orleans Group- R. McCarthy, PO Box 15734, 70175-5734. (504) 899-0014

MAINE
Lewiston Group - M. Lunt, (207) 786-6273

MARYLAND
Baltimore GMB -R.Bey, Black Shield, Box 1681, Glen Burnie 21060. (301) 367-3024

MICHIGAN
Ann Arbor Tenants Union Job Shop (IU 670) - 4001 Michigan Union, Ann Arbor 48109. (313) 763-6876. Delegate: Jeff Gearhart (313) 994-5477

N. Michigan - John Patterson, PO Box 245, Conway 49722-0245

SE Mich. GMB- Delegates: Albert Parsons (313) 769-0695; Michael Kozura, 7252 Kendal, Dearborn 48126. (313)581-2065

MINNESOTA
Minneapolis/St. Paul Group - Box 2391, Loop Stn, 55402. (612) 339-5002

Duluth Group - 1514 N. 8th Ave. E, 55805. Delegate: Jack Rosenquist

MISSISSIPPI
Gulfport Group-C.G.Streuly (601)896-3515

MONTANA
Contact: Mark Ross, 111 W. Quartz, Butte 59701. (406) 782-4465

NEVADA
Tahoe Group - Larry Steinberg, PO Box 1114, Dayton 89403. (702) 246-3120

NEW YORK
Central NY Group- PO Box 762, Cortland NY 13045

NY GMB-Delegates: Brian Mahoney 1717 N.Thompson Dr, Bay Shore NY 11706 (516) 586-2103; Rochelle Semel, RD 1 Box 158-B, Hartwick 13348. (607)293-6489

Socialist Party USA National Office Job Shop (IU 670) - 516 W. 25th St. #404, NYC 10001. (212) 691-0776

OHIO
SW Ohio Group - D.E. Slaton, Box 26416, Trotwood 45426. (513) 854-0051

PENNSYLVANIA
Lehigh Valley GMB-POB 4133, Bethlehem 18018. Delegates: Mike D'Amore (215) 434-0218; Dennis Good (215) 921-2459.

Wooden Shoe Books & Records Job Shop (IU 660) - 112 S. 20th St, Philadelphia 19103. (215) 569-2477

SOUTH CAROLINA
Harbinger Publications Job Shop (IU 450) - Merll Truesdale, 18 Bluff Rd. Columbia 29201. (803) 254-9398

TEXAS
Austin Group - PO Box 49523, 78765. (512) 416-9619

UTAH
Salt Lake Group - Tony Roehrig, PO Box 520514, Salt Lake City UT 84152-0514. (801) 485-1969

VERMONT
Burlington Group-Anne Petermann, Orin Langelie POBox 804, 05402. (802)658-2403

WASHINGTON
Bellingham GMB - PO Box 1580, 98227

Seattle Group-POB 20402, Seattle 98102 (206) 367-0477. Delegate: Stan Anderson. Street of Crocodiles Letter Press Job Shop (IU 450) - PO Box 20610, Seattle 98102. (206) 726-5924

Tacoma/Olympia GMB & GDC Local 4 - 2115 S. Sheridan Ave, Tacoma 98405. (206) 272-8119

WEST VIRGINIA
Delegate: Rick Wilson, 1019 2nd. St.W. Huntington WV 25701

WISCONSIN
Lakeside Press Job Shop (IU 450) - 1334 Williamson, Madison 53703. (608)255-1800. Delegate: Jerry Chernow

Madison GMB - Box 2605, 53701. (608) 255-1800. Delegates: Tim Wong, Jerry Chernow

Forest Workers

Breaking Ranks

by Ernie Pardini

Logging is a tradition that goes back through 5 generations of my family. I am a Licensed Timber Operator - that makes me a logger. I also have a passionate love for the natural beauty that God has surrounded me with, and an unfaltering desire to see it perpetuated, able to sustain itself throughout eternity. That makes me an environmentalist. I'm not here to represent either group individually, but both together, as a whole, as children of one family, those of the Planet Earth.

I've observed factions of both sides do everything humanly possible to swing public opinion in their direction. From employing conventional legal actions, to slinging slanderous accusations with no hard evidence to back them. With all their efforts, very little has been accomplished by either side except to divide the co-inhabitants of an otherwise compatible and caring and peaceful community. I didn't come here with the intentions of making enemies, through some of what I have to say may offend some people.

As a lot of you know my uncle's logging company is directly involved in the Enchanted Meadow operation. I will defend to the end his ability and conscience where logging is concerned and though I disagree with the over-harvesting done by L-P, I know that my uncle's company will see that it's done in a manner that is as environmentally sound as possible under the circumstances.

Even so, my standing with him will be strained at best when this day is finished. But I accept this, because I feel that what I have to say is important.

I am familiar with the history of logging in this area. I am aware of a gradual progression which began with the mass clearcutting of old growth forests around the turn of the century, to what finally levelled off to reasonably conscientious logging practices in the pre-LP era. I moved away from this area shortly before L-P moved in, and returned 2 years ago from the East coast.

When I left here, the logging industry was healthy and strong. There were vast timber resources, being logged in a manner which seemed to have no effect on the long term supply. Logging companies consisted of people who had long experience in the industry and had the benefit of learning from the mistakes of their ancestors. They were aware that the way they conducted operations today would determine the ability of their children and grandchildren to carry on. They were well paid for their hard work and took pride in their industry.

Now, what I see are thousands of acres of rotting stumps and scrub brush. Loggers walk with their shoulders slumped, rather than the swagger of years past. Many local operators are gone out of business, not able to adjust to the cut-rate logging prices dictated by corporate monopoly.

Those operators who did survive, did so by cutting corners. When once they would have taken the time to reset a choker to avoid knocking down a young tree, they now couldn't afford the overtime. Hours had to be eliminated, making it nearly impossible for workers to earn enough during a season to carry through the winter months. Wages are only a few cents higher than they were a decade ago.

I began to ask questions of both loggers and environmentalists, trying to make sense of all this. Loggers told me they were starving, barely able to make ends meet. Most of them hated what the big corporations were doing, and hated being forced to be a part of it. But what else could they do? They had families to feed. Logging was all they knew.

Environmentalists, most of them newcomers to the area, had no feel for the traditions of the local logging community. They lashed out at the timber industry for what it was doing to the Earth, emanating disdain toward the loggers for their part in the devastation. They expressed disbelief at their ignorance in regard to the impact their work was having on the environment. I witnessed a constant verbal and sometimes violent war between these 2 factions.

All it accomplished was a long stalemate - which gave the corporations enough of a diversion to all but finish off their greedy rape of our timberlands, assuring huge short term profits and clearing the way for the corporations to move on to greener pastures - which was their intention all along.

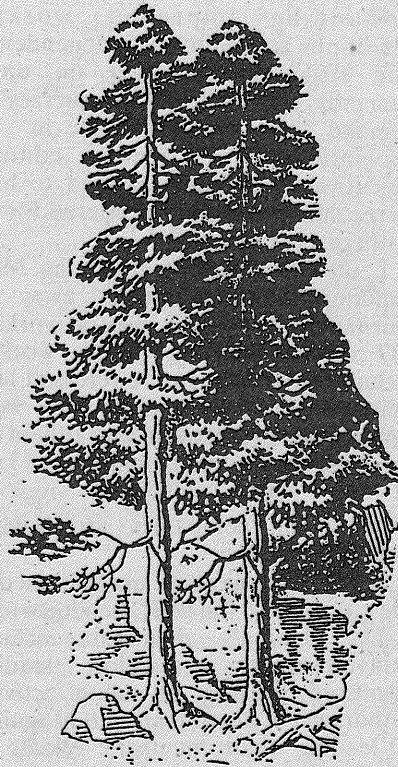
The tougher forest practices regulations which will come as a result of the conflict, will give the corporations the excuse they need to move their manufacturing facilities to Mexico where labor is cheap; move their logging operations to a place where there are still plenty of trees; and the blame will be neatly placed on the environmental movement.

Suddenly things started falling into place. I asked myself why the environmental issue has only surfaced in the last couple of years, when L-P has been practicing the same harvesting methods at the same frantic rate for over a decade. Why only now, when the damage is done and over 70% of all harvestable trees on L-P property is gone, are people taking a stand?

Why, if L-P is planning on staying in this area indefinitely - as they claim to the press - are their logging roads being built to specifications which meet county regulations for subdivisions? It has become apparent to me that, if the major timber interests didn't actually initiate the environmental issue, they at least secretly supported it.

Let's consider this number one: L-P had exhausted nearly all their marketable timber in the area. This will soon leave them facing a drastic fall in log production, making the continued

This is a (slightly shortened) speech that 5th-generation logger Ernie Pardini wrote to deliver at an Earth First/Albion Nation demonstration last summer. Since then Ernie Pardini and Judi Bari have been spearheading the growing alliance between redwood region loggers and environmentalists in Mendocino County. Ernie and others in the timber community have joined IWW Local #1. More on this subject in future issues!



operations of their manufacturing facilities financially implausible. This means heavy layoffs in a local economy that is already depressed. This could severely damage their public image which is suffering anyway. The uprising by environmental groups and the re-writing of forest practice regulations, will give them the excuse they need to gradually phase out operations.

Number two: The national economy is suffering. Housing starts are down, lumber inventories are high and lumber prices were lowering. In addition, their log supply has been exhausted, which meant waiting out the economic slump with large lumber inventories while production stood still. Their industry needed to devise a means of moving large volumes of lumber quickly, but at the same time show the type of profits they were accustomed to. The environmental issue accomplished this for them.

The stalling of Timber Harvest Plans, public awareness that timber supplies were diminishing, all served to create a sense of desperation that sent lumber prices soaring. This gave the corporations a margin that allowed them to pay landowners higher prices for their standing trees, providing incentive for them to sell. This gave the corporations enough logs to temporarily continue operations, and the increased log supply is allowing them to tidy up and finish the pillaging of what few stands of timber remain on their own lands.

Number three: By throwing up a couple of sacrificial lambs, such as Osprey Grove and Enchanted Meadow, a mere drop in the bucket compared to the annual harvest, they have created a diversion allowing them to carry out the

devastation going on elsewhere virtually unnoticed. As the human race has proven before, warring factions often become so engrossed in battle they lose sight of the cause.

My criticisms I would have to direct to both loggers and environmentalists. First of all to the loggers: Why haven't you organized yourselves to make a stand against the cut rate logging prices you've been forced to accept? Where is that "Don't give a damn," "Won't be pushed around," attitude that you displayed in the past? Can't you see that you're only prolonging your fate by following corporate mandates, only to die a slow death at the end?

And to the environmental factions...While I would fight and die for your right to stand up for what you believe, I deplore the use by certain groups of misdirected tactics such as tree spiking and sabotage. Why are many of you directing your anger at loggers - who are only following their survival instincts - instead of targeting the corporations directly? You criticize log workers for continuing to work their occupations, but I haven't heard you offer any alternatives.

What I'm trying to say to both sides is though your motives may differ, you both seek the same end: Perpetual Forests. Why alienate potential allies, when instead you could work together to become a single force in numbers large enough to really make a difference? I propose that we join to form a coalition to provide a forum for communication. Let's educate each other as to our needs and desires so that we might formulate practical plans.

As an example, and I'll be brief because I didn't come here to promote my business. I have spent the last 2 years with an associate to form a network of foreign and domestic markets for forest waste products. There are people out there who will pay us very high prices for what was previously considered as waste. As far as waging a war against the corporations, let's educate the public, initiate boycotts nationwide against buying products produced directly or indirectly by them or their subsidiaries. If you eliminate the demand, the supply will remain intact. We know that government is prone to react to corporate muscle. But we have a power over government that exceeds that of the corporations. We pay taxes. If there's no tax money, there's no government. Again, these are only examples. Many more will surface if we concentrate our combined efforts -- even if it has to start with a handful of us on the tailgate of a pickup, it's a beginning.

Sierra Club Workers Unionize

With a choice of 2 unions on the ballot, US employees of Sierra club voted to unionize -- some with United Auto Workers, others with an independent union named John Muir. Workers at San Francisco headquarters office chose the UAW.

The Sierra Club organizing drive started because management arbitrarily laid off employees and tried to extend the work week.

"The burden is on us to show other employees that the union can create democracy," said Lorraine Vallejo of the organizing committee. She said management had tried to divide the workers and draw support away from UAW, describing the union as an enemy of the environment because of

its position on air pollution controls. Management set up an "employee empowerment group," which eventually spawned the John Muir in-house union.

Vallejo said environmentalists and workers have common ground and must cooperate.

The UAW has also unionized Greenpeace workers in New York and the Ecology Center in Ann Arbor, Michigan.

"I think the Sierra Club unionization will create a ripple effect within the environmental movement," said Mary Ann Massenburg of UAW District 65. "There's such a network in nonprofits that once you have the critical number, people organize each other by word of mouth." (SF Weekly)

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- Revolution
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- articles on Land, Air, and Water Abuse
- with Judi Bari, Anne Petermann, Abbey Edwards, Michaela de Landa, Orin Langelle, Steve Taylor, Ronblock, autonome forum, Snaggletooth, Mike Z and a cast of 250 to 1!

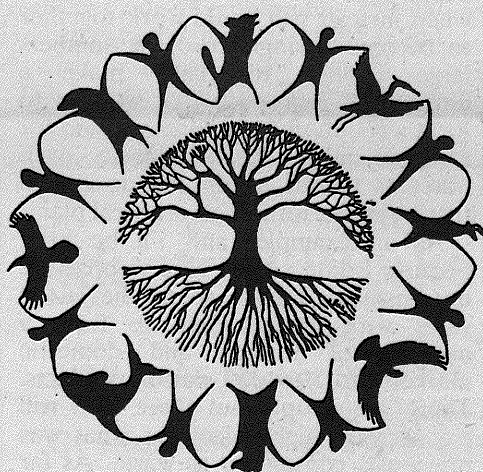
International Notes

South Africa:

Hospital Workers Win Strike:

A 17-week-old strike was resolved Sept. 25, when hospital administrators in Transvaal province agreed to reinstate 5,000 of the 7,000 workers dismissed several weeks ago. Under the agreement the National Education, Health and Allied Workers' Union will rejoin the central forum at which government and 11 public sector trade unions negotiate; Nehawu will not take industrial action for the next 6 months; and future disputes will be subject to arbitration.

AN ALLIANCE BETWEEN LABOUR and environmental movements is in the process of development. Local and overseas labour organisations and environmentalists discussed Sept. 15 the question of how to translate shared interests between environmentalists and unionists into effective action. Earthlife Africa said an alliance of labour and environmental movements would work for better health and safety conditions in industry; for the right to open information on environmental issues; and for controls over polluting industries. Mopholosi Morokong of the South African Chemical Workers' Union said workers' immediate concern was the state of the working environment. Environmental protection must be part of the union program linked to health and safety in the workplace. He suggested that unions monitor investment from both local and overseas sources to ensure that new polluting industries are not established.



Labor Radio in S. Africa:

The Congress of South African Trade Unions began weekly broadcasts on 11 stations of the state-run radio network September 9. The 15-minute programme, called "On the Shop Floor," will focus on current labour matters, and incorporate current affairs, drama, phone-in programmes, and other approaches to bring issues of concern to workers in a lively and creative way.

Chad General Strike: The UST called a general strike beginning October 5, as part of the union's ongoing demands for the payment of salary arrears and the withdrawal of plans to reduce salaries and raise taxes by 20 per cent. The last strike took place on September 7-11, during which 2 union activists were arrested, 17 dismissed, and several demoted.

Asia & South Pacific

Sri Lankan Export

Workers Strike: Over 500 Sri Lankan workers at a leather bag factory in a free-trade zone near the Colombo airport struck Sept. 4 to protest the firing of a fellow worker by South Korean managers. Workers maintain that managers are mistreating workers, and demand better pay and amenities. The worker was dismissed because he was absent for 2 minutes.

South Korean Broadcast Workers Strike:

1,200 workers at South Korea's Munhwa Broadcasting Corporation have been on strike since the beginning of September, demanding improved working conditions and editorial independence. The strike has focused on union demands for "editorial democracy"--a demand to have a say in the appointment of senior editorial executives. The union wanted to have its recommendations considered for the posts of bureau chiefs.

1,500 riot police stormed the MBC building Oct. 2 and hauled away 198 journalists and other media workers. 187 of the striking media workers including journalists were released later that day. 7 union leaders have been charged for prosecution and others are presently on the run from police. 13 out of 19 MBC-affiliated regional broadcasting companies are holding sympathy strikes.

Some 600 policemen are stationed at the entrance to the MBC headquarters.

The Union's demands include: reinstatement of union leaders dismissed because of union activity; withdrawal of disciplinary action against 40 leading union members; release of the 7 union leaders now under arrest; negotiations on the issues of editorial democracy and trade union rights.

Fiji Unions Blacklist

Union Buster: The Fiji Trades Union Congress (FTUC) imposed a "black ban" on the Australian-owned Emperor Gold Mining company September 18. The ban means that 42,000 members of unions affiliated to FTUC will refuse to handle raw material or equipment brought into Fiji by Emperor, or to transport the firm's gold exports.

Emperor Gold Mining has defied an order issued by the Fiji government a week ago requiring that it recognise the Fiji Mine Workers Union as the legitimate representative of its mine workforce. The Fiji Mine Workers Union and Emperor have been in dispute for the past 20 months over the company's refusal to recognise the union and the sacking of 420 workers. The company prefers to negotiate with non-unionised workers councils elected at its mines.

Central & South America

Guatemala Recognizes

Clothing Union: Guatemala's government has granted legal recognition to the union at Phillips-Van Heusen. The PVH union is the first new union established in Guatemala's maquiladora sector in over 3 years, and is only the second union in the sector. This major victory is due in large part to US grassroots efforts to support the basic rights of workers in Guatemala, including boycott and leafletting campaigns by Wobblies at PVH stores in Pennsylvania.

Cuba: Sebastian Arcos appeared in court October 5, faced with a prison sentence of up to 7 years. Earlier this year, Arcos was involved in a demonstration demanding the introduction of a multi-party system and democracy in Cuba. He is the brother of the general secretary of Cuba's Human Rights Committee. He is specifically accused of sending names out of the country of people who have participated in state-organised mob persecution.

Peru Outlaws Dock

Strike: A strike by port workers which started Sept. 5 has been declared illegal by the Peruvian labour ministry. Workers are demanding job security and salary increases.

East. Europe

Russia Workers Demand Unpaid Wages:

A wave of strikes across Russia is demanding that employers pay back wages that have gone unpaid for up to 3 months. In Ekaterinburg, workers at the city's largest factory, the Ural machine building plant, struck in June. July 9, a spontaneous strike began at Samara's aviation plant. The strike took place because while workers were not paid for the month of May, part of the administration received their wages for this period. Samara workers were paid their May wages the same day after going on strike.

Moscow road-repair workers struck July 13, demanding a wage increase, back pay (workers had not got wages for 3 months), and supply with spare parts and materials.

And independent unionists have condemned the Russian government for its failure to honor agreements reached last year with the unions, particularly regarding promised protections for laid-off workers. The KAS-KOR Digest notes, "The Trade Unions have by themselves set about working out a new agreement with the government for 1993. But what for, if all agreements remain on paper? And times now are unstable. You conclude one agreement with the government, then you look around and another government has already appeared in its place."

Russian Union Raided:

Fears of a crackdown on the Federation of Air Traffic Controllers following August's failed strike were realised. Officials from the ministry of the interior raided the union's Moscow office Sept. 16, seizing union documents in a 5-hour search. The federation now faces criminal charges arising from the strike.

Ukrainian Workers Demand Resumption of Economic Ties:

The Union of Textile Workers of the Ukraine, the Independent Union of Textile Workers, and the general director of the Donetsk textile-sewing association have written the government demanding that economic ties with the former Soviet republics be resumed and that contracts to supply the textile industry of the Donetsk region with raw materials and equipment be honored.



Kiev Unionist Attacked by Boss:

The chairman of Kiev Union of Taxi Workers, S. Klimenko, was attacked July 15 while posting a notice of an upcoming union meeting. The attack came after Klimenko ignored an order by a manager not to post notices anywhere in the area. He was then seized by militiamen and beaten cruelly, and required hospitalization for several days.

Price for Coal: The vice-chairman of Coal Industry Department of the Ukraine, S. Yanko, reports that the mortality rate among coal workers is growing (346 people in 1990, 354 people in 1991). Although Yanko attributes these deaths to careless workers, members of the Donetsk Independent Union Miners (the NPG) disagree, noting that most mines have unreliable and obsolete equipment. Miners are forced to continue working even when equipment fails, as they are paid by the ton.

Latvian Unemployment:

The Council of Ministers of Latvia admitted that 25% of the republic's working population will be unemployed by the end of the year. Under new laws, enterprises should pay monthly unemployment compensation to dismissed workers. But many firms refuse to do so, and few workers can afford to take them to court. "So the worker has only 2 choices," the Russian KAS-KOR Digest reports, "to become a robber or starve to death."

Where Are the Socialists?

Addressing the Socialist International's September conference in Berlin, ICFTU General Secretary Enzo Friso said that unions "need allies, and will naturally turn to democratic socialist partners." Yet, "we find all too often that, when in opposition socialist parties welcome close collaboration with the unions, but when they gain office the unions are sidelined." Friso said this was not due to duplicity, but advocates of a U.S. labor party might want to take note nonetheless.



Moldavia: Death Threats

Tamara Budenko was fired from her job April 29, 1992 for "systematic violations of labor discipline." Tamara had been a 14-year employee of the literary magazine "Kodry". Her husband, Igor Hergenreorder, has published articles critical of the Moldavian regime and against the war effort, and both have spoken against the rise of fascism. Since July the couple has been harassed and received death threats. July 25, TV News Service announced that "Transnistrian separatists are organizing in the capital (Kishinev) and are creating anarcho-syndicalist groups. The State Prosecutor has asked the legal authorities to (investigate)." Soon after, the lawyer for Igor and Tamara declared he would not defend them.

Anarcho-syndicalists in the Commonwealth of Independent States (former USSR) are asking for support. Send telegrams and letters of protest to: *People's Court Buyukan Sector, Moldavia Kishinev-1, ul. M.Vistayazul d.2, President of the Court. *Ministry of Justice, Moldova Kishinev-12, ul. Stefan cheu Mare, d.73. *President, Moldova Kishinev-1, pl.Velikogo Natsionalnogo Sobraniya d.1, Mircha Ion Snegur.-(WSA)

Britain

Law Fails to Change Sex

Discrimination: 17 years ago, when British parliament passed the sex discrimination act, many women thought they were about to get a fair deal. However, a new government-funded equal opportunities commission has found that for most women the situation has not improved. The reasons include discrimination in the way jobs are graded and paid, continuing segregation by gender and the perpetuation of this by the different way that the labour market is structured for men and women.

Taking their case to law under the 1970 equal pay act has proved quite difficult. "Everyone is spending a lot of

International Notes continued from page 4

time, money and energy fighting for something that is their right but is not being delivered," says Marie-Louise Makris, acting policy and outreach coordinator for the National Alliance of Women's Organisations. Disputes generally flounder on the difficulty of proving conclusively that jobs with different titles involve the same responsibilities and skills.

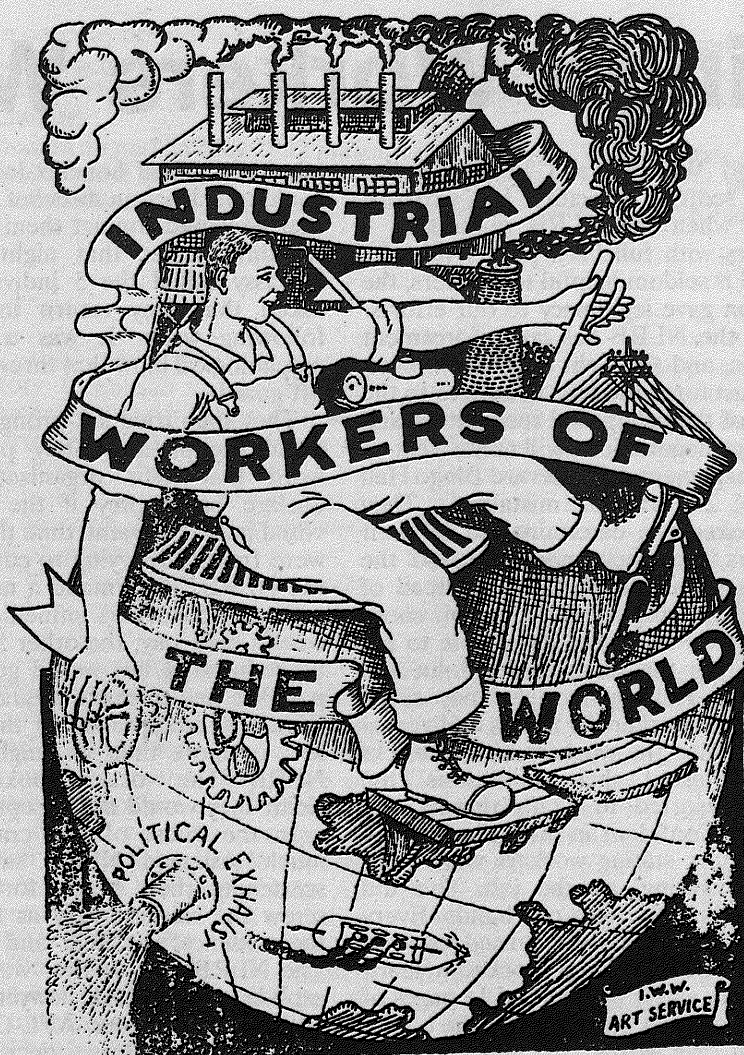
Dr. Pamela Endersby spent six years trying in vain to get the courts to recognise that speech therapists, who earn \$25,000 a year should be paid the same as clinical psychologists who earn \$30,000 and hospital pharmacists, who earn \$32,000. "We are ignored because we are women," Endersby said, pointing out that training for each profession takes the same number of years. But by tradition speech therapy is a female occupation.

Employers have proved very adept at getting around the legislation. In January, secretaries and typists working for Lloyds bank were awarded an extra \$4,000 per year to bring them in line with male clerks. The bank quickly reorganised its staffing arrangements. The Spectator magazine calculated that if all women in Britain's banking system earned the same as male employees on the basis of the level of the job performed, banks would have to find an extra \$34 billion a year.

The broader tale that these statistics tell is that Britain is fast becoming a low-wage society; since 1971, women have accounted for 90% of the increase in the labour market, displacing 1.3 million men from work, the report said.

Meanwhile, the *Left Business Observer* reports that U.S. labor costs have fallen to #13. Austria, Belgium, Canada, Finland, Germany, Italy Luxembourg, Netherlands, Norway, Sweden and Switzerland all pay workers more when wages and benefits are tallied. The U.S. rises five notches when benefits are ignored. "If real hourly wages had continued to grow at the rate they did from 1947 until 1973, instead of declining almost 13% over the last 20 years, the average worker would be making \$17.75 an hour, rather than the current \$10.56—a difference of almost \$15,000 a year for full-time workers."

And the U.S. government is proposing to cut back on job health and safety protections, arguing that reduced protection would save workers' lives and improve our health. Budget Director Richard Darman has argued that limits on workplace poisons and unsafe conditions result in employers slashing wages in order to fund job safety. Since government statistics clearly show that poor people suffer from more, and more serious, health problems and live shorter lives than do rich people, the Bush administration figures that we'd all be better off if employers were freed from health and safety regulations. Then, if we survive the poisons and the dangerous machines (and if the bosses decide to turn over their increased profits to us, an unlikely scenario at best), we can spend our new-found wealth on medical bills.



Australia

Radio Strike: Journalists and broadcasters at SBS Radio 2EA have voted to continue strike action over the issue of redundancies. 200 members of the Media, Entertainment and Arts Alliance have been on strike since September 9. Alliance members at 3EA in Melbourne have also voted for a 24-hour stoppage in support of Sydney colleagues.

As part of a management-initiated restructuring of SBS Radio, broadcasters and journalists from a number of language programmes had to re-apply for their jobs. 30 people have been sacked from the Filipino, French, Cantonese, Mandarin, Vietnamese and Portuguese programmes. (*Australian Journalists Association* 9/18)

World

Paid Vacation Days, 1991:

In the 19 major industrial nations: Spain 32.0; Netherlands 31.9; Norway 31.4; Germany 29.9; Finland 28.6; Sweden 27.8; France 27.0; Austria 26.8; Denmark 25.0; Belgium 24.6; Italy 24.6; United Kingdom 24.5; Japan 24.0; Switzerland 23.4; Ireland 22.9; Australia 22.4; Canada 14.7; United States 10.8. Source: *Union Bank of Switzerland, Prices and Earnings Around the Globe, 1991* (Zurich: UBS, 1991), p. 8.

SALARIES AND VACATIONS: We're Number One in executive salaries, and Number One in inequality of pay. American chief executives make about twice as much as their counterparts abroad and twenty-five times more than the average American worker—the largest ratio of any of the nineteen major industrial nations. Average remuneration (salary, benefits, holdings, etc.) for a Japanese CEO is \$371,800, less than half that of the average American CEO, \$747,500. France's top executives are a distant second with an average remuneration of \$448,500.

Salary differences are even more stark among chief executives at the top thirty companies in respective nations: Americans make \$3.2 million on average, compared to \$1.1 million in the United Kingdom, \$800,000 in France and Germany, and \$500,000 in Japan.

Employers Should Go To Jail For Safety Violations

Employers who disregard health and safety laws should be jailed, according to Paul Forder who represents labor on the Ontario Workplace Health and Safety Agency.

Recent laws in the province require companies to set up trained health and safety committees to monitor job safety. Forder estimates 50% of business in Ontario have not complied, and also 50% have not yet provided training on Hazardous Materials as required.

Under the law, employers who do not set up the required programs could be fined \$25,000 and jailed up to a year.

The law also improves employee rights to refuse unsafe work.

"We have an average of 1.2 fatalities for every working day and 3.4 workplace accidents every minute," said Forder. Between 1988 and 1991 Ontario averaged 6 workplace deaths a week and 400,000 injuries a year. Workers compensation cost over \$2 billion in 1991.

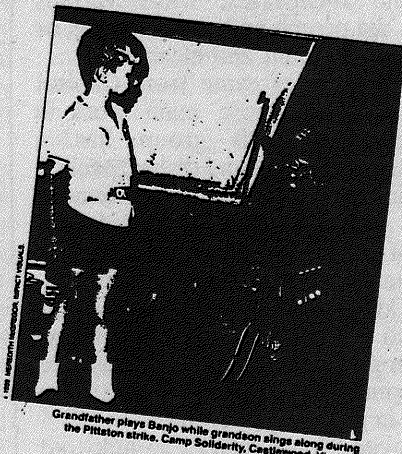
"The human loss and the human suffering is incalculable," said Forder. "Incarcerate those who ignore the law." (*Ottawa Citizen*)

WORKERS' HISTORY, WORKERS' SONGS: 1993 IWW CALENDAR

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Somalia: Toxic Waste Dumping

Italian companies are dumping toxic waste into the Indian Ocean off the coast of Somalia according to clan leaders. Exiled Somalis accuse one warlord, self-declared president Mahdi Mohamed, of taking money to allow the dumping.

A Swiss-based firm, Achair Partners signed a deal with Mohamed in Dec. 1991 to build at least one incinerator to store and burn half a million tonnes a year of waste, in the Mogadishu region. The incinerator is to open in 1993. A United Nations official in Kenya would not disclose the source or any details, saying, "We are dealing with a Mafia here. Some of my colleagues are really frightened for their lives."

Please direct protests to the Italian government.

Around the Union

Bingo Workers Win!

But the fight's not over...

Bingo Workers and Lehigh Valley IWW scored a victory for workers' rights, when the NLRB re-instated 8 workers with full back pay. While the NLRB is seldom helpful to workers, the decision gave legitimacy to our efforts.

But the NLRB has lax enforcement policies, and the fight is far from over. We must force the boss to adhere to the terms of the ruling, and recognition and contract negotiations will come next.

Management at Boulevard Bingo Hall made 2 crucial mistakes. They overlooked the determination of their workers, plus they underestimated the staying power of the IWW. Instead of settling the dispute early, mgmt. chose to trip over itself and dig a hole to fall into. From the start, bosses John and Charlene Havassy thought they could intimidate workers by firings and verbal abuse. Once the workers hit the bricks and protested their conditions, the bosses resorted to death threats and slander. Confident in their power, they sent letters stating workers were fired for "conspiring" on the job. This did nothing but play into our hands. Every written statement was turned over to NLRB. The Board was shocked to learn that every single worker had 14 pages of documents that literally hung the bosses by their own words.

By early September, mgmt. began to realize they were in big trouble. Their high priced lawyers sat them down and explained how much damage they had done. They then sent letters to 5 workers offering "unconditional" return to work. The letters never said what "unconditional" meant, nor mentioned back pay or re-instatement of all 10 workers. Our impression was that mgmt was trying to cover their asses with the NLRB, and also divide the workers. The IWW organizing committee asked mgmt to clarify their "unconditional" offer within a week.

But instead of waiting for a reply, we decided to have some fun. Monday, Sept. 14, the 5 workers showed up for work, letters in hand, demanding their

jobs back. Head honcho John Havassy could only listen in disbelief and mutter that he would contact them to set up a schedule. Later that night, Charlene Havassy called the 5 individually and asked that they return to work the following week. It was a wonderful psychological blow that threw the bosses off guard.

They then tried a 2-prong strategy to cloud the picture. They put out the word that their organization would declare bankruptcy if the IWW was voted in. At the same time their lawyers were frantically trying to cut deals with the NLRB. They made a new offer to re-instate 5 workers immediately with 1 week's back pay; the other 5 would not be re-instated but would get full back pay. We had to make a quick decision. Would an acceptance of the terms be less, or more than we might get from NLRB? The workers spoke loud and clear: they would not accept this offer.

In the midst of this craziness, the much maligned NLRB sat in Philly scratching their heads for a way to screw the workers. Try as they might, the evidence was clear and conclusive. The NLRB case worker was forced to explain to PASCAL lawyers that the IWW is unlike some AFL-CIO unions, and does not force decisions down workers' throats - workers themselves make all the decisions.

Bingo Case Sets NLRB Precedent

The NLRB person handling our case told us that our case was a precedent that would be used all over the US. We took the precedent to mean: How do you rule when the bosses are so stupid they shoot themselves in the foot and then try to cover it up? How do you judge ignorance and how harshly do you punish that ignorance?

On Sept. 20, workers and LV Branch met. It was agreed the 5 workers would go back to work, to show NLRB that they were willing to work, not just

collect back pay. It was stressed that the bosses were going to create ridiculous rules and the workers would have to abide by them until an NLRB decision or recognition. Though the workers would have to endure abuse, the fact they were on the job would send a message to bosses and customers that they had not been defeated. We also agreed not to make any new offers to mgmt in hopes that NLRB would see it was time to break the impasse.

Sept. 21, the 5 returned to work. It was as hellish as everyone expected. They were forced to submit to harsh work rules, subjected to ridicule and write-ups. Mgmt tried to make the workers quit or cause a scene so they could be fired, but no one took the bait. However, one worker was suspended indefinitely for refusing to sign a derogatory statement.

At the same time, PASCAL lawyers were making offers -- to raise back pay for some people. We declined.

Sept. 24, NLRB ruled that 8 workers be re-instated with full back pay. The fate of the other 2 workers would be decided at a later date. It was a major victory and the workers were ecstatic. However, the decision in no way guaranteed the workers would actually receive back pay. The bosses made it clear that the fight would go on. Our attempts at bringing them to the negotiating table were refused.

New Charges Filed Against Boss

Because of the dictatorial and unfair new work rules, the workers filed new charges with NLRB. The new charges cause a delay in the possible certification election, but will strengthen our case in the event of a court hearing.

Workers went back to the picket line October 12. 2 Wobs infiltrated the Hall and began loud arguments with the bosses, plus they played the cheapest games, tying up the game boards and being a pain in the ass. Outside, the workers picketed and passed out

leaflets. Bosses called the cops only to get one more lecture of the futility of complaining about our picket.

The situation at the Bingo Hall looks to be a long, drawn-out struggle. Legally, the bosses don't have a leg to stand on but this has not stopped them from fighting tooth and nail. In the process they have nearly gutted the organization, PASCAL, without the input of voting members. It is hoped they will come to their senses and begin negotiations before it is too late.

-Jeff Kelly

B I N G O				
1	23	36	46	(72)
4	27	43	(50)	64
15	18	(630) I.U. IWW	55	65
9	(30)	42	58	75
(10)	29	31	47	60

Update, Oct. 19: NLRB has decided in favor of re-instatement and full back pay for the other 2 workers, a complete victory for the workers. But mgmt has ignored the ruling. Of 5 who were actually re-instated, one is now suspended; the status of a 2nd worker is uncertain, leaving only 3 back on the job.

Pickets were held Oct 11-18. Pickets will be sporadic and not predictable. Other means will be tried to gain community support and put pressure on the bosses.

Entertainment workers, this is your union - IU 630, that makes it your struggle too. It's also the fight of everybody in the IWW because that's what Union is all about.

Write a polite letter to the management of Boulevard Bingo, encouraging them to stop wasting money on lawyers, meet at the negotiating table and to negotiate a fair contract: PASCAL, 1514 Union Blvd, Allentown, PA 18103

Please send a copy of your letter to Lehigh Valley IWW, so they know what is going on. And if you can, include a few dollars to support the Bingo workers campaign. Our sister workers have won this round, but there are still 5 workers to be re-instated, back pay to be paid, and a first IWW contract to be negotiated.

Any help you can offer will be greatly appreciated - and put to good use!

Ottawa IWW Hosts Coffeehouse

October 2: Local acoustic performers gathered for a coffeehouse. Featured was Paul Baker, touring activist for El Salvadorian human rights. Paul sang songs honoring Che Guevara and Chile's famous poet, musician and activist, Victor Jara. He also played beautiful flamenco guitar pieces.

Music was mostly solo folk artists, varied by an acapello female singer, and a 4-piece fusion band. 3 performers did songs by or about Joe Hill. Spider hitchhiked 40 miles into town to give us "Banks of Marble," as well as original tunes.

The Ottawa premiere of "Pro-Choice Maid" by Jan Edwards, was asserted by Patricia Doyle. Others included long-time Busker Paul Piche, Mike Larrsen and the up-and-coming folk star Lori Hodge.

IU 630 member Pat Blare performed Dakota Sid's classic "Bullshit", his own 90's rendition of "Feel Like I'm Fixin to 'Buy' Rag," and then capitulated with his original "What's It Gonna Take?" FW Pat added a bit of spice, like the hot salsa which he thoughtfully provided free for fellow music workers.

About 75 persons made up the audience, and donated sufficient funds to contribute \$75 to Paul Baker's expenses, and \$10 each for other performers, after the costs were paid. Our set-up costs were about \$175.

Despite our table being in the dark, IWW literature was picked up. Mixed lapel buttons sold well.

Admission was free. Coffee and food sales were brisk, and a jar for donations was placed near the entrance. If the crowd had been larger, we would have also passed the hat towards the end.

IWW members were happy to initiate a gig, when Paul Baker's Ottawa friends kindly offered his services. But it was a cooperative event from start to finish.

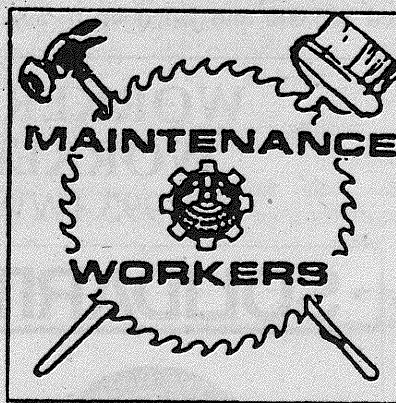
Local groups *Capital Club (CPC)* and *Greenfyre* members donated their labor to prepare food. Nicaraguan farm co-op coffee was donated by Bridgehead. Music workers provided the entertainment. The audience brought the cash and themselves; while various persons did promo and coordinating, or worked the kitchen and clean-up.

Even the dishes came from Capitol Region Releaf, whose main work is planting trees. This group has a complete set of 2nd-hand dishes, packed in plastic boxes, available to movement events. A great service, it avoids the waste of paper and styrofoam dishes. We donated \$10 for use of the dishes.

This kind of low-key, co-op event seems to be a good vehicle to bring people together with an IWW presence in the community. Some children were present in the early evening.

We invited local NGO's to help out as co-sponsors or bring their literature. Everyone had a good time, and many said that we should do it more often.

For future events of this kind, a music worker contract is being drafted. Performers' fees are based on a percent or portion of the money that comes in above costs; above which, the money goes to some benefit cause. Performers take a risk, if no profit comes in they will go home empty-handed. Since we are displaying the IU 630 Personal Services Contract as an organizing tool for performers, we better start using a contract for events we sponsor! It will be a co-operative contract. - MV



End Up Update

About 25 demonstrators gathered in front of the End Up bar at 10 pm Oct. 18. They chanted "End Up! Unfair!" and "Free Speech - Some Restrictions Apply!" 3 persons came dressed as nuns. Many customers turned away after reading leaflets and talking to the supporters. End Up management recently got an injunction to stop IWW pickets.

The boss called police, but IWW organizer Jess Grant convinced them that the demo was not a violation of the injunction, since it was not an organizing picket but rather a demonstration of community feeling. The atmosphere was festive.

The End Up is now getting a reputation as not a cool place to go, and this will affect profits. Maintenance workers and their supporters will continue to press for their rights of free speech, and the right to organize a union.

The Job I Left Behind Me

*an adaptation of T-Bone Slim's
"Mysteries of a Hobo's Life"*

Well I took a job in a fast food joint
Cause the times are sorely tryin'
So they put me in a uniform
And set me chicken fryin'
Well the grease
it clogged up my pores
And my sweat was enough
to blind me
And the boss didn't seem
to like my pace
So I left that job behind me!

-FW Andrew Willett
X341813



rust belt blues

The attempt by the religious right to make their so-called "Family Values" the determining issue in the '92 election collapsed. The economic situation is tearing up families and communities. Let government deal with that, and keep Tipper Gore and Danny Quayle out of our bedrooms.

American economic policy for the 90's and beyond will determine the face of family values. This economic policy is broadly agreed upon by the ruling class: a Western Hemisphere protected trading zone, euphemistically called a "free trade zone", protection of professional and technical suburban white collar workers (through middle class entitlements), work fare instead of social welfare, and continuing reliance upon the military industrial complex (the neverending preparation for war) for economic stability.

I live in a transitional working class, student, public housing neighborhood. We've got two "party stores" in the neighborhood. Both are run by Arab emigrants. The one with the hard liquor license is of course two blocks closer to the public housing project. The smaller safer one just sells beer and wine. Both sell your essential grocery items. Being the neighborhood businesses, their parking lots and checkout lanes are social gathering spots.

The public housing project once consisted of eight multi-unit buildings. The 80's housing strategy of "demolition by neglect" has seen one building after another burned, boarded up, and bulldozed. Currently only four of the buildings are habitable. The tenants are single mothers and their children. Nearly 100,000 individuals were eliminated from the well-fair rolls in Michigan over the last year.

Asked the Yemenite proprietor of the smaller party store how business had been. He told me it had been really bad this year. No one has any money. He hopes that a change in Presidents will give people more money, but doubts that anything will really change.

The family values of these emigrants are worth pondering on for a moment. Assad, not only runs his small business, he also lives in the neighbor-

hood. Most of his family lives in Yemen. Over the years I've seen one son?, uncle?, nephew? after another come and live and work with him. They stay as long as their work visas allow. All the money they make goes back to Yemen. Assad, showed me some pictures of the village they live in, and of the new house the family is building. Their values lead them to pool all of their earnings creating a family income. One capable of providing for 20 or more individuals.

While I was talking with Assad, my neighbor Ralph came into the store. He was with his two nieces who live with him. Ralph has been unemployed for nearly two years. He was able to work unemployment for nearly 18 months but they denied him the latest Federal extension. So now Ralph is working in the fastest growing industry in urban Michigan: he scavenges scrap metal. One of the growing numbers of people picking over the spoils of the "demolition by neglect" program. Ralph's sister is doing time for a crack offense, thus the nieces are living with him. Their father is dead.

Ralph and I talked for a few minutes about the job situation. \$5.50 and \$6.00 bucks an hour seemed to be the prevailing rate for just about anything. Fuck that shit! We both agreed we wouldn't sell ourselves to a boss for that kind of money.

Finished buying my beer and smokes and headed back home. It's a pleasant walk. As I waited to cross at the light I heard my name called out. Looked around, and saw Sue and Mike sitting out on their porch across the street. I crossed on over and had a seat on the stoop. Mike, said he was waiting for his daughters to be dropped off. It was a Friday night, and his daughters usually spend the weekends with him. Mike and I had worked together for a number of years and we got our pink slips the same day. Mike's ten years plus marriage had come apart in the last year of our working together. The stress of working for a failing business had played a major role in their separation and divorce. Jan, his ex-wife is a teacher and is preparing for a strike. She has to have the child support no matter what, so Mike was

VALUES – ECONOMIC & CULTURAL

The past twenty years have seen the speeding up of American and Canadian workers. This family values thing has to be looked at economically. Falling wages, failing services, and an increasingly alienated and polarized society hurt people.

The right wing fundamentalist christians have taken over the base of the Republican party. George Bush's renominating convention was an orgy of intolerance. It was racist, misogynist, anti-gay & lesbian, favored corporate environmental terrorism, reduction of civil liberties and increasing military intervention everywhere from Los Angeles to Baghdad. Their vision of the future is the nightmare fundamentalist world depicted in Margaret Atwood's *A Handmaid's Tale*.

The rejection of Bush/Quayle (if the polls are right) may in part be a rejection of this dramatic expression of intolerance. But Clinton/Gore are just more of the same, packaged different.

And piece by piece, day by day, the right wing agenda is served.

Two news stories from Illinois point up some of this. On the statewide ballot is a proposal to make public education a right for citizens and a duty for government. The governor and others oppose this affront to use of the public schools to keep portions of the population down. In Chicago the 140,000 residents of public housing are subject to searches and seizures that would be ruled unconstitutional in other housing. The murder of a seven year old appears to be the catalyst for emptying, tearing down, and upscaling the piece of (newly) prime real estate the Cabrini Green project sits on.

In other places these things, education and housing, as well as health care, food and public transportation are rights. In the USA the permanent war economy is the only given. Until we change it.

There are other certainly other possibilities for arranging society. The IWW is a diverse crew. We welcome your viewpoints on "family values" and other values of a new society for future issues of the Industrial Worker.

interested in any job prospects. Had the same job conversation as I had had with Ralph. Passed some pleasantries with Sue, and headed for home.

As I climbed the steps to the porch I heard my neighbors next door. My house is one of the few single family dwellings left on the block. Most are like my neighbors, single family homes broken into an upstairs and a downstairs apartment. I like my current neighbors, (a nice change from some past years), Lucy and her two children occupy the downstairs apartment. The kids are great, and watch after my three year old on occasion, though the boy, like all ten year old males, can be a bit destructive at times, (probably a closet bakuninist). Lucy, cleans homes for a living, and her ten year old Chevette is always filled with cleaning utensils and supplies. She also gets some work with her boy friend Bill. Bill used to work for the university but they outsourced his job a couple of years ago. He cleans an office building, and is trying to get a catering business going. Anyway, tonight I heard the new tenant, Bob. I had met him just this afternoon. My car had broken down in front of the house, and he had come out and helped me push it into a parking space.

Bob, is in his mid-twenties and working at the \$5.00 to \$6.00 an hour job that Ralph and myself say we won't take. He works third shift and gets that 25 cent an hour premium pay. Isolated from any kind of social existence Bob seems to be pretty drunk everyday by 1 or 2 in the afternoon. Goes to sleep by 3, sleeps it off and heads off to his midnight job. He survives without a real life.

My neighborhood is relatively prosperous compared to the devastation that exists in many communities. For now at least, most of my neighbors still have an income.

The family is an economic unit, and the values of that organism are directly related to its economic health (the rich can pay for the shrink to discuss the spiritual desert their families have become having sacrificed morality for wealth). The values that I see my neighbors creating for their children have nothing to do with the capitalist values. Mutual aid and solidarity are the linchpin values we are attempting to instill. They are the values which have made it possible for our families (how ever you wish to organize them) to survive as social units. These are family values put into practice.

letters to molly maguire & ned ludd

direct action gets satisfaction

M.K. Tent Maker/Raiser

I used to work for a tent and awning company. During the winter we manufactured awnings and canvas products, as well as "fair tents". During the spring we installed the awnings we had made, as well as awnings we had stored during the winter.

From the spring thaw until the first snow they rented out the "fair tents". These tents could be as small as a 10x15ft. backyard party tent, to huge monsters that were 40x300ft. The boss had divided his company in half. When you worked on manufacturing or installing awnings you punched in on one time card, when you worked tents you punched a second time card. In the warm months it was quite common to work 60 plus hours a week. Of course you never worked more than 40 hours on a single time card, so there was never any overtime pay.

It was a small shop with only six of us on the payroll. When we needed more bodies for putting up the tents the boss got on the phone to a "manpower" agency, which sent out temporaries for

the day. All in all it was hard, dirty, back breaking, work. Jack Kelso, was our lead man. He was a hot blooded Irishman who took pride in the fact that he used an 18 pound sledge where the rest of us used 16 pounders.

The first big tent job of the season was the annual dog show. This job always consisted of a 40x300 ft. tent, along with a couple of small party tents. The job was always in mid-april. We had been grumbling all winter long about the bullshit conditions within the shop. The only thing that made the work bearable was the boss staying away from the shop. He would be there at 8 in the morning when we punched in for the day, and then he would take off until 4:30 or so when he would come back and make sure we weren't cheating the time clock.

Well his being gone regularly like that allowed the six of us to organize our own work for the day. At 9 o'clock we would all sit down together blow a doobie, and figure out who was working on what for the day. Then we would all get together again at noon and at 3 o'clock to smoke a couple more joints. So de-

spite the shitty working conditions, we had stayed pretty mellow through the winter.

We had also discussed the coming tent season. And we had decided we were not going to put up with the shit we had the previous year. First and foremost we were not going to work in the rain any more. Putting up tents when it was dry was dangerous enough work. In the rain it could be positively deadly.

It rained that whole week leading up to the dog show. We had all individually told the boss during the week that we weren't going to work in the rain. The day came to go and do the dog show and it was cold and wet and raining. The boss told Jack to get his crew together and go put up the tent. Jack, says "take a hike I ain't working in this shit". The boss fired him on the spot. The boss then went to the next biggest worker in the shop and says, "you've got Jack's job, go do the dog show." We had discussed this situation, and we were going to hang tough together. We walked up to the boss and told him that were sticking with Jack, and none of us are going out in this kind of weather. "You're all fired, get

out of my shop."

Well, we went out to our cars in the parking lot to smoke our morning doobie, and to wait and see what happened. The boss got his brother-in-law, and a nephew to come in and help him along with a half dozen temporaries. We followed them out to the job site and watched them fumble fuck around putting the tents up in the cold and rain all day.

That night the big tent fell down. The next day we had our jobs back, it was clear and cold, but dry, and so we put the tent back up.

I worked at that shithole for another three years, and never worked in anything worse than an occasional drizzle. The boss had learned that tents just couldn't stay up if they were put up in the rain.

NOW IT'S YOUR TURN!

Send your tales of direct action on the job to Molly Maguire & Ned Ludd, Industrial Worker, PO Box 4217, Stn E; Ottawa Ontario K1S 5B2 Canada.

talkin' 'bout my generation

Two women were talking about family values. One lives with her husband and their three children; the other lives with her two sons who have different fathers.

Married Mother: I think family means love, and concern for everyone, not just your self.

Single Mother: To me, it's taking an interest in what children do, communicating with them as people. One of the most difficult things for a single mother with boys, is that she has to become both sexes. She must play the role of father and mother, and this makes it very hard to retain her femininity. I have a friend with three sons, she's turned into a man. And she knows it.

Married Mother: Kids need both parents, I think.

Single Mother: Divorce should not break up a family, in fact sometimes it can make the family happier and stronger. But when you say family values, it reminds me of the "Family Value Pack" of Kraft dinner that I see in the supermarket. The whole idea of equating family values with such things as crime and social problems, is false. The family breaks up due to economic conditions. In my view, the woman should not have to leave the home to earn money, not if she doesn't want to - one of the parents should be able to stay at home with the children in every family.

Married Mother: But, the one who stays home has to be a good parent, not

just sit around and watch TV.

Single Mother: A family can include lots of people. I think "serial monogamy" works well, where you live with one partner for a while and have a child, then you part but both parents remain involved with the child. Then maybe you have a child with another partner, and your ex finds another partner - you all become related, you all relate to the children and this is very healthy. We have to re-define the meaning of family, it's not just this Ma and Pa Kettle type of relationship.

Married Mother: In fact that's very rare.

Single Mother: We have to get used to a clan-like living arrangement. All kinds of different people and friends and

relatives. Like a clan.

Married Mother: That could confuse the kids, I think. They wouldn't know who their parents were.

Single Mother: Well, it works if people have a good relationship with the children.

Married Mother: If I was a kid, I wouldn't want so many adults around telling me what to do.

Single Mother: Well, that's when the kids learn to get away from adults, find their own space. Being able to find that space is very important for a child. Family values is having fields for your children to go find themselves in. Fields, and forests, swamps and streams where kids can escape. Family values is having a meadow for your children to play in. (mv)

Whose "Family" Values? towards a real debate

I have watched and waited throughout the whole discussion of family values for one thing - a real debate. I have laughed at the jokes and I have been appalled at the stupidity of the Republicans as portrayed by the Democrats, but still I have waited in vain for any politician to talk about these issues from a critical standpoint.

Beyond the jokes, there have been four obvious flaws in the approach of the politicians of both parties. First, they assume that the family is some god-given structure that simply floated to modern times on the Ark. Second, it assumes the values that families teach their children are the values that we wish to pass on to future generations. Third, the focus on the family allows them to abdicate the lead in important alternatives such as collective child-rearing by the state. Fourth, it assumes that women will simply continue to reproduce children to add into the existing family structures.

The Ark lands and off trots two of every animal including humans. (Noah, like God, seems to have forced heterosexuality upon the animals including himself and his companion. Though bestiality may have acceptable as well) These two animals breed and into being comes the family. I wish life were that simple. Capitalism has the amazing ability to continually re-write history in its shape.

If we look at anthropological records, we find a different picture - collective systems. Children were born to the tribe or group. Their education and development was the responsibility of the community. The extended family actually extended to all members of the community to feed and care for the children of the community. In fact, the community was actually responsible for all other members of that community. The highest dishonour was to be removed from the community. A similar pattern remained in many agricultural societies - shared farming and shared child-raising.

We do not see the development of the modern family until the development of industrial capital in the late eighteenth century. Modern industry required mobile workers who were free to sell their labor. The collective system challenged this mobility by its stability (members provided for others in the same geographical community) and its internal welfare system (members of the community did not need to sell their

labor to each other to survive because the community provided for all). So a new unit was created to suit the needs of industrial capital - the family.

Like all good capitalist products, it looks good as a package and is only totally dysfunctional in the home. It was mobile. It forced men and women (and children) to all work for their survival. It cut off emotional ties from other working class people. It forced buying of the products that were produced. It eliminated the community welfare system. The modern version, based on the patterns of early twentieth century middle class managers, even forced women from the workplace into a home full of shiny new products. Their children became the better educated workers for the more complex machinery of industrial capital.

The family (single parent variation, two car models, minibus version and all) are simply things that were created in the last four generations to fit with the needs of the factories.

I think it is interesting that we would want to promote family values at all. We know that (at a conservative estimate) one in three women and one in seven men suffer from incest. Rape seems to be a popular family value in this country.

A substantial percentage of women will undergo some episode of verbal and/or physical abuse in their family home. Domestic violence seems to be a family value.

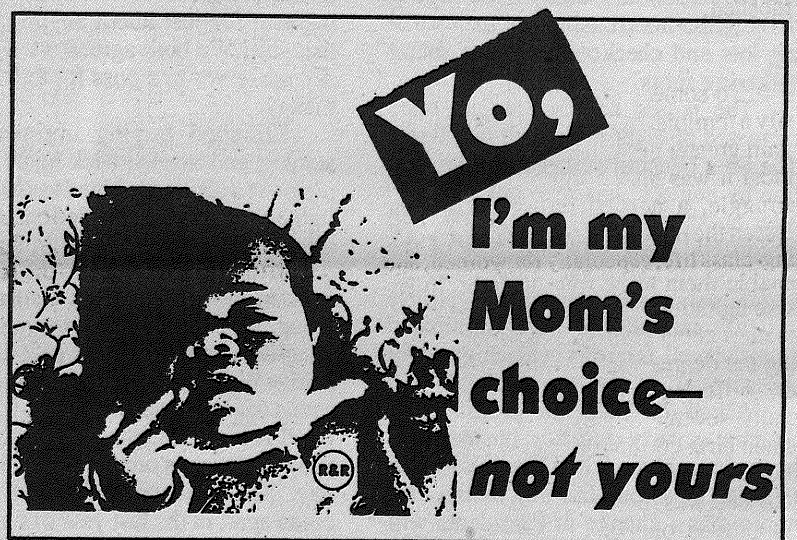
We are told that our neighbors are dangerous murderers in disguise and we must simply remain indoors with our family. Alienation from other working class people seems a family value.

Finally, our history is translated by watching TV rather than hearing the stories of our community. Our heritage being molded by those who sell douches and dog food seems to be a family value.

I don't know about you but I don't find these worthy values to pass on to some future generation. With values like these, who needs strikebreakers to keep us quiet. We will all be too busy dealing with the terrors of our childhoods and our relationship to our family.

The politicians have failed to attack the very concept of family.

It is assumed to be the only form of education and development for our children. Yet, we know that collective child-raising teaches children values in sharing and co-existence. But the state would



have to pay for such ideas. The state set up schools to train better workers but it could be forced to set up new ideas. The state would be forced to pay directly in cash as these new centres became established to better develop our children. Worse still, it would pay in legitimacy as people learnt to develop their own community. The state would have trouble staffing the armies and the factories would have trouble finding scabs in a society that valued co-existence and sharing over poverty and alienation.

There is no reason why such alternatives are not explored on a larger scale. If the state and its politicians had our best interests at heart, they would be clamouring to explore new concepts other than the further privatisation of our education and the further forcing of development on a failed family unit.

Even in capitalism, failed products eventually get replaced. It is time to redesign the family in the image of workers this time.

Ever since Noah and heterosexual friends got off the Ark, we have been told to emulate the rabbits. Multiply and be fruitful. Enough breeding already. Unlike Bush and the demographic environmentalists, I do not blame the rise in population on anyone but those who sought peasants for their farms, workers for their factories and sex slaves for their pleasure. Blaming the third world for overpopulation is like blaming the monkey for the music of the organ grinder. In both cases, the monkey has trouble breaking her leash or getting to keep the money she makes.

Missing from the family values discussion has been an explanation why

there are no safe, free and accessible contraceptives for women. There has been no discussion why men are not automatically trained to use condoms (a safe, free and accessible contraceptive for men) in the same way as they are trained to know the rules of football. There is no discussion of why women are not taught to be aggressive in rejecting unwanted sexual encounters or why men still think rape only occurs in dark alleys by strangers. There has been no exploration of the joys of homosexuality or non-penetrative sex. Sex between equals is never a topic in a society based on unequal power relationships.

Capitalism has defined men and women in terms of their genital equipment. We do not have to accept such definitions. I am not my penis. Women are more than vaginas. Marx proposed that in an ideal society we are what we create by words or deeds. I want to be defined by what I write and say and do, not by my sperm count or the size of my penis. The family values discussion has failed to raise the possibility of re-defining women as operators of computers as well as breeding stock for new workers. It has failed to see men as more than sperm-producing vessels that can operate machinery.

Equality can only be based on a system which values people collectively more than the family. Reproduction should not be the sole goal of our existence. We can create beautiful things and we can destroy ugly things. Our work is our creativity. At the moment that creativity is as harnessed for parasitical others as is our ability to have and develop children with the ideas that we truly value.

it's still a class issue:

Reproductive Rights & the IWW

INTRODUCTION:

The following account of how IWW in the 1910s dealt with the issue of birth control as a class issue is excerpted from the excellent book *The Rising of the Women* by Meredith Tax. (Published by Monthly Review Press 122 W. 27th St, NYC NY 10001.)

In the book Tax looks at several instances of working class women organizing. She confronts the relationship of women's struggle for liberation and class struggle, concluding, "one is dependent upon the other: not only does women's ultimate liberation demand socialist revolution as a precondition, but at every turn the political character of the women's movement depends on the strength of the revolutionary forces in society as a whole. ... Women are very much a part of the class struggle and their lives are entirely mediated by class relations. There is no struggle for women's liberation that is separate and independent of class. Indeed, how could such a thing be? Such a picture of the world leads to work that is detached, disoriented, floating in limbo. The working class is at least half female; and certainly more than half of all women are working class. The struggles are not only interrelated—they are interwoven, meshed."

To some, birth control was primarily a feminist issue, a way women could gain greater control over their lives. To most it was also a weapon in the class struggle, a needed reform that could lessen the poverty and hardship of working-class life, especially for women, and enable them to be freer to fight. Intensive agitation about contraception began during the depression of 1914-1915, when the sufferings of the poor were especially severe. Elizabeth Gurley Flynn made birth control the subject of one of her main speeches on her 1915 lecture tour and was gratified by the response: "It proved one of the most effective topics, yet a few years ago it was a tabooed subject in America, classified as 'vulgar and obscene' both by law and public opinion. Birth control among the workers, not as a solution to the class war, but as a valuable contribution towards that end, is a logical conclusion for a woman of Mrs. Sanger's varied experiences."

Margaret Sanger, a visiting nurse on the Lower East Side, was a left-wing socialist and a follower of the IWW, who had been active in strike support work in Lawrence and Paterson. ... In this period she saw contraception as a way to help working-class women, bring about a sexual revolution, and make the working class as a whole more fit for combat. Encouraged by Bill Haywood she went to France in 1913 to investigate the means of contraception being used there. The French working class was celebrated for having a declining birth rate despite the power of the Catholic Church and the government's policy of paying family allowances to people that bore many children. Margaret Sanger collected many home birth control techniques in France, where "mothers prided themselves on their special recipes for suppositories as much as those for *pot au feu* or wine."

She returned to the United States in 1914 to start her own magazine, *The Woman Rebel*, which was circulated through IWW locals and by anarchist friends like Emma Goldman. Margaret Sanger printed the IWW preamble in her

In the years of its strength, the IWW made two significant contributions to the theory and practice of organizing women in the United States. It found new ways of connecting the workplace and the community and it integrated women's fundamental demand for reproductive freedom with the general class struggle.... Not only did the IWW agitate around the need for access to birth control information; it actively distributed such information at a time when to do so was to court arrest.

first issue, as if to declare affiliation. Her purpose she said, was "to stimulate working women to think for themselves and to build up a conscious fighting character." Apart from its feminism, the magazine bore a strong resemblance to those of the anarchist fringe of the IWW, where

there was a great emphasis on being a pure-spirited militant minority. The US Post Office soon indicted her for an article that was "a philosophical defense of assassination," despite the fact that the magazine's main message was sexual freedom for women, including the freedom from "forced motherhood": "Our fight is for the personal liberty of the women who work. A woman's body belongs to herself alone. It is her body. It does not belong to the Church. It does not belong to the United States of America.... The first step toward getting life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness for any woman is her decision whether or not she shall become a mother. Enforced motherhood is the most complete denial of a woman's right to life and liberty Once the women of the United States are awakened to the value of birth control, these institutions — Church, State, Big Business — will be struck such a blow that they will be able only to beg for mercy from the workers."

When Margaret Sanger was indicted, she decided to flee the country and do further research into European techniques of birth control; she planned to turn her trial into a political forum when she returned. As she fled she released her pamphlet *Family Limitation*, a popular digest of information about contraceptive techniques she had gathered in Europe: douching, condoms, pessaries (diaphragms), sponges, and suppositories. It contained arguments against coitus interruptus as being harmful to the nervous condition of the woman involved, and pleaded for mutual sexual fulfillment rather than the forcible exercise of the husband's conjugal rights. It suggested that "the working woman can use direct action by refusing to supply the market with children to be exploited, by refusing to populate the earth with slaves."

One hundred thousand copies of the first edition of *Family Limitation* were printed clandestinely by IWW printer Bill Shatoff and distributed primarily through IWW locals. Margaret Sanger recalls: "At first I had thought only of an edition of ten thousand. However when I learned that union leaders in the silk, woolen and copper industries were eager to have many more copies to distribute, I changed my plan.... Bundles went to the mills in

the East, to the mines in the West — to Chicago, San Francisco, and Pittsburgh, to Butte, Lawrence, and Paterson. All who had requested copies were to receive them simultaneously."

In the next few years, 10 million copies were printed and many more were mimeographed, typed or hand copied. When Margaret Sanger returned for her trial, she reported that "boys in the North Woods, lumberjacks, bereft mothers, all sent sums of from one to ten dollars out of their meagre savings to help me carry on the fight. Miners from West Virginia wrote that their wives had for the first time in 5, 8 or ten years been free from pregnancy. ... Miners had walked five miles to read the pamphlet. Others had had it copied by friends who could write." Elizabeth Gurley Flynn wrote Margaret Sanger, suggesting that the IWW form Sanger defense committees. She reported that the IWW had printed five thousand leaflets in Chicago containing extracts from her book and that "one girl told me the women in the Stockyard district kissed her hands, when she distributed them."

In the years of its strength, the IWW made two significant contributions to the theory and practice of organizing women in the United States. It found new ways of connecting the workplace and the community: in the heat of its great mass strikes, housewives came out of the isolation of their kitchens and joined their husbands and working women in the fight for survival on the picket line. In doing so, they create new space for their own struggle as women, new bargaining power in the home, new political understanding for the future, as well as doubling the size and strength of the working-class army....

The IWW's second major contribution to work with women was its effort to integrate women's fundamental demand for reproductive freedom with the general class struggle, to take the demand for birth control into the labor movement and bring out its class aspects. Not only did the IWW agitate around the need for access to birth control information; it actively distributed such information at a time when to do so was to court arrest. IWW practice on the birth control issue showed that it could be militant about the needs of women as well as about economic issues. By bringing these two realms together, the IWW added a new dimension to both the labor movement and the movement for women's liberation.

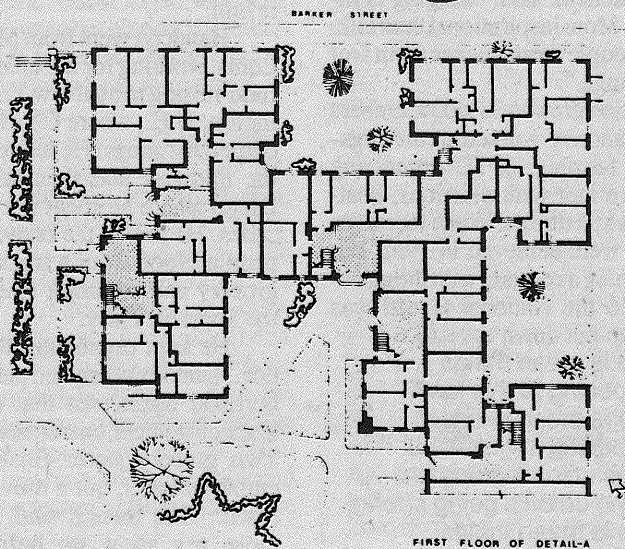
Feminist Housing

There is no private life which is not determined by a wider public life.
George Eliot

The built environment serves capitalism. Streets are constructed to move tanks and armies, commodities and consumables. Housing warehouses us in little boxes to consume. Public space, free open and unknown, is missing in the cities. Pay to enter. Or move on.

Against this alienated environment some have put up other alternatives. communal living on a major scale. Child-care and food preparation socialized within a building housing fifteen or twenty households. Solidarity and sharing structured into the environment.

Ages and cultures mixing by choice. People taking care of each other. Like our ancestors did.



The Feminist flat is revolutionary, strikes at the root of the economic system, may involve vast readjustments of land-tenure, communal building and taxation. But we are not afraid of revolution, for we are the pioneers of a sex-revolution.
W.L. George 1913



left side



Last month was the commemoration of the Genoese pirate and slave dealer who was on his way to India and came upon a land hitherto unknown to him for which he is still hailed as a great discoverer, never mind that millions of people were already living in this side of the ocean. This month is the commemoration of the Pilgrim Fourflushers who sailed from England, leaving no broken hearts behind. These puritans were about as pleasant as a boil on top of a hemorrhoid. Thinking they could use the same agricultural methods over here that they used in England, they would have starved to death the first winter if some neighboring Indians hadn't felt sorry for them and helped them out and proceeded to show them farming techniques and food products more attuned to this Continent.

When at last they were no longer in danger of starving, they fell on their knees to give thanks to their White Anglo-Saxon Protestant Jehovah and then proceeded to fall on their Indian neighbors. With all the zeal that is engendered by the Protestant work-ethic they went about clearing the land of timber and Indians. Those Indians that they did not butcher outright, they would sell to the slave ships that docked in their ports. It is no figment of the imagination that many Black Americans seem to have Indian features or that Soul Food is

an African adaptation of the native Indian cuisine.

When Thomas Jefferson wrote about all men being created equal, he obviously was doing so with tongue in cheek. It was not exactly brotherly love that wiped out millions of Indians or grew fat on the unpaid labor of millions of kidnapped Africans. Don't let anyone try to tell you that racism is unpatriotic. Racism is what built the good old USA and face it, fellow worker readers, it is that hallowed institution that made this country what it is today.

In fact racism has become so much a way of our lives that here in Freedomland persecuted minorities persecute each other while you know who are laughing on their way to the bank. Uncle Adolph was by no means the innovator of the tactic of divide and conquer nor was it those who crowded Indian Nations onto inadequate parcels called reservations and did their best to stir up trouble between them.

As long as people can be kept at each others throats the rulers need never worry about being unseated. Here in the city of Chicago when the Chicago Bulls had their championship victory there was a boisterous celebration throughout the city but the media fo-

cused attention on what happened on the south and west sides where young Blacks used the occasion to loot and trash some neighborhood mom 'n' pop stores. The righteously indignant commentator decried the action of mindless mobs of criminals. One Black journalist pointed out that "those mobs were once hopeful children who watched this society withdraw resources from their neighborhoods, where the need is real and often life-threatening, while pouring millions into athletic enterprises (like elaborate new stadiums) designed solely for entertainment. For these youth, handicapped by under-education and social disdain, the connection between sport and looting is clearer than we care to concede. Our culture denies the connection, and many White Americans are wondering what all this racial fuss is about."

However the stores that were being trashed were not White Anglo owned enterprises but hundreds of Arab-owned small grocery and other stores. Up to twenty percent of all Arab businesses were damaged in a few hours. These were not the oil-rich Saudis who own over half of one of Chicago's swankiest thoroughfares but recent immigrant entrepreneurs who set up small businesses in neighborhoods that no one else wanted to get close to.

These small businesses are between the Devil and the deep blue sea. The independent merchants can only buy the merchandise and produce the large supermarkets leave over. They wind up paying far in excess of the wholesale prices that the large stores do. The large businesses by obtaining their

merchandise bulk rate, have succeeded in causing the extinction of the little corner grocery store save for the neighborhoods where a combination of the high crime rate and the lack of big money discourage most business owners from setting up shop. In these neighborhoods is where Asiatic or Arab store keepers find a clientele. The aforementioned circumstances force them to pay much higher prices for inferior goods and consequently charge higher prices to their customers for shoddy goods which builds a resentment.

Here in our great melting pot we have the classic example of the weak preying on the weaker as those on the top of the heap laugh heartily on their way to the bank.

However the slum-dwellers may have a minor advantage in this society of ours. They can't afford to go to hospitals. Last July there was a law suit against some hospitals in Florida. One hospital charged \$54.30 for a sponge and \$7.80 for an antiseptic swab. Another charnel house was charging \$50.00 each for Advil and Tylenol tablets. Whenever you happen to be in the Krankenhaus, be careful who you engage in conversation with. You are liable to find yourself being charged a hefty consultation fee by some doctor whose name you never even heard, but who was nevertheless faithful to the oath of hypocrisy.

Since this is November remember that if voting ever changed anything they would make it illegal.

Don't vote! It only encourages them!

C.C. Redcloud

farewell fellow worker John Handcox organizer & songwriter

We're gonna roll,
We're gonna roll,
We're gonna roll the union on.
If the planter's in the way,
we're gonna roll it over him,
Gonna roll it over him,
gonna roll it over him . . .

John Handcox, union organizer and song writer, died September 18 at the age of 88. Handcox is best known as the author of dozens of classic labor movement songs he wrote in the 1930s, including "Roll the Union On," "Raggedy, Raggedy Are We," and "There is Mean Things Happening in this Land." He wrote those songs while an organizer for the Southern Tenant Farmers Union (SFTU) in the 1930s.

Handcox was born near Brinkley, Arkansas to a sharecropper family. His father's mother was the half-white daughter of a slave and a slave owner; his mother's father was "a full-blooded African" slave. On rainy days, Handcox's grandfather told him stories about slavery. "The way he told it, we were better off under slavery than after. Under slavery he was valuable. But after slavery, he was anybody and everybody's slave," Handcox said in a 1985 interview with the Los Angeles Times.

His parents were tenant farmers. They owned mules, hoes, cotton sack and other tools so they worked "thirds and fourths" — paying the landlord a third of their corn crop and a fourth of their cotton for use of the land — instead of turning over half the yield, as did sharecroppers who owned nothing.

He learned to read from his mother. His father subscribed to the newspaper and read it aloud with the eleven children. They read about lynchings. They also read the poems of Harlem Renaissance poet Paul Dunbar.

When he was 19, Handcox' father died and he left school to work the farm and care for his family.

In 1934 the federal government was paying landowners to reduce production

in order to raise the price of cotton. The result was a disaster for hundreds of thousands of share croppers and day laborers who were forced off the land. In July 1934 the Southern Tenant Farmers' Union was formed to fight for better wages, against tenant farmer evictions, and for socialist farming cooperatives.

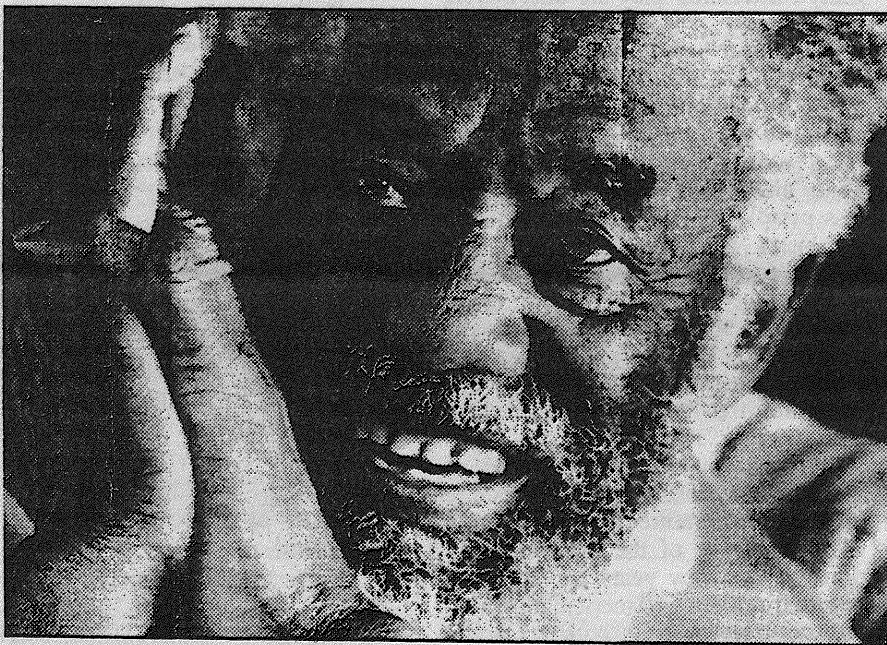
A year later Handcox helped set up two locals of the SFTU. He traveled from house to house on his horse. "The people were being treated unfair. I know they wasn't getting out of debt. They were just working for what they eat and wore and that wasn't much. Wasn't nothing to smile over," Handcox said.

Meetings were held in school houses and churches. Handcox began writing poems and songs, passing them out at meetings and publishing them in the union's newspaper *The Sharecroppers' Voice*. "All these songs and poems is about the way the people was being treated," Handcox said. "Singing is inspirational. More inspirational than talk. It arouses people more, makes them feel a part of things."

The union grew to 31,000 members in 1936. Handcox worked at the organizing and farming. SFTU organizing actions were met with evictions, beatings, arrests and threats. Wage increases for pickers were achieved in 1935, but without signing a contract with the growers. In 1936 the National Guard was brought in to put down the strike.

There is mean things
happening in this land,
There is mean things
happening in this land,
But the union's going on,
And the union's going strong,
There is mean things
happening in this land.

"The National Guard set up their machine guns and tents and people gathered around to watch 'em do it," H.L. Mitchell, an SFTU founders, recalled in a 1980s interview. Two blacks died in vigilante violence and the farmers lost the strike. Handcox was run out of town.



John Handcox, union organizer & songwriter

"I was in the river, fishing, and my momma and my wife come running down, hollering for me. Their voice was so distressful, I just knew something happen with the kids. But my momma said, 'John. You better get away from here.' You see, a friend of mine, a white fellow, he'd been up at the store and overheard them say, 'That nigger John Handcox, we gonna hang him. We got the rope and we got the limb, all we want is him.'"

Handcox went from Memphis to St. Louis, working for the union. He made a fund-raising trip to New York and Washington, D.C., where Charles Seeger recorded his songs. He looked for work in the midwest and then headed to San Diego where he spent the next five decades. He joined the carpenter's union, peddled food from a truck, ran a small grocery and restaurant and belonged to the Socialist Party.

He kept organizing for social justice. Handcox organized pickets at neighborhood businesses that depended on black customers, but refused to hire them. Two grocery stores finally agreed to employ blacks, but a movie theater refused. "The owner, said, 'Nigger, I'll close my show up before I'll hire niggers,'" Handcox later recalled. The theater closed down.

Though Handcox was living quietly the authorities showed interest. Handcox told of an FBI visit: "A friend of mine called and told my momma the FBI come by asking about me. I was eager to find out what the FBI wanted

with me. It had been three or four years since I'd been to a party meeting. So I went up to L.A. and called. They come by and I invited them in to my friend's house, but they said, 'No, you come out to the car.' They was asking did I belong to the Socialist Party. I said, 'Yes. I prefer it over the Democrat and Republican cause they nothing but rich people's parties and I don't have no money.'

"I tell them, 'now you all chasing after me, but you didn't do nothing to these people that kill Emmett Till.' He was the Negro 14 years old who they killed in Mississippi (for whistling at a white woman)."

"If you've never been black, you can't hardly sympathize with what black people went through. I don't hate white people. I don't have no hatred."

Handcox attended a SFTU reunion in the early '80s which labor singer Joe Glazer also attended. Over the next few years Glazer and Pete Seeger, who'd been singing Handcox' songs for years presuming him dead, helped John get onto the bills of folk festivals, union gatherings and other events. "His songs are going to be sung as long as there are Americans who remember American history," says Seeger, whose father had recorded Handcox in the '30s.

Said Handcox, "Life is not a matter of money with me. If my songs help make this a better world to live in, I think I did a lot."

You did Fellow Worker. Rest now. There is mean things happening. We'll roll the union on.

Profile: A Retired Wage Slave

The IWW has many members who retired from their wage-slave careers but are still active in one way or another. Workers of all ages may benefit from, and be inspired by their experience, and so we bring you the first in a series of profiles of IWW-active retirees. This is the profile of Co-Worker Albert Schatz, Ph.D., Professor Emeritus, a world-renowned scientist who was exploited economically and denied the Nobel Prize for his work as a graduate student. He was also blackballed because when he sought justice, he exposed a widespread corrupt university system of exploiting graduate students.

You may recognize his name as author of *The Star-Spangled George Bush*, a song which appeared in part in May 1992 *Industrial Worker*. An IWW member since 1984, Albert has recently begun to play the 5-string banjo. He has received honorary degrees and medals; and has been named an honorary member of scientific, medical and dental societies in Europe, Latin America and the US -- for his discovery of Streptomycin and other research. The quotes in his story which follows are from Jack London.

What Life Means to Me by Albert Schatz

"I was born in the working class." When I was young (in Connecticut) I learned how hard farm life was -- many hours of work daily, 7 days a week with little income; and about working conditions in a city (Passaic, NJ) where my father was a union house-painter. As a 6-year-old, I saw bloody workers, fire-hosed and beaten by police, carried into their rented apartments by fellow workers during the famous Botany Worsted Mill strike in Passaic in 1926. This was one of many strikes that led to the 1934 General Strike involving 400,000 workers in hundreds of communities. In that unsuccessful strike, 20 people were killed and 25,000 blacklisted. In northern New Jersey, I saw the Ku Klux Klan in the 1920s and the German American Bund (nazis) prior to World War II.

As a boy, I knew people who died from tuberculosis, pneumonia, diphtheria, influenza, blood poisoning and other infectious diseases. I knew World War I veterans who lost hands, arms, legs and eyesight; and others who were gassed and never fully recovered. For some veterans who had psychiatric disorders, that war never ended. During the Great Depression beginning in 1929, my mother bought 4 eggs and a quarter-pound of butter at a time. I never had more than 5 store-bought toys as a child. I met unemployed, homeless people who were fed in soup kitchens, went from house to house begging for food, and ate what they found in garbage cans on the streets and in garbage dumps.

Because of these and other experiences, "I discovered that I was a socialist," and later developed an awareness of the social implications of science. This greatly influenced the kind of work I did. Much of that research (in Soil Science) concerned human diseases and what I call the soil-food-health chain.

For more than half my life, I was a professor and research scientist. I did some research alone and paid for it myself. I never did research in a large group, for corporate profit, for the military or for secret government

projects. I published 3 books and several hundred articles. Most of what I published was oriented towards helping people.

As a 23-year-old graduate student doing research for my Ph.D. degree in Soil Microbiology, in 1943 I discovered Streptomycin. This antibiotic, produced by a soil microbe, was the first effective cure for human tuberculosis. The discovery of Streptomycin changed history because tuberculosis, also known as the Great White Plague, is the greatest killer of all time. It killed a thousand million people in the past 200 years. It used to be called consumption because it consumed its victims; their bodies literally wasted away.

In recent years, tuberculosis has flared up and we are once again threatened by the Great White Plague. It now causes more deaths than any other infectious disease. Tuberculosis is a disease of poverty that afflicts mostly poor people who live in crowded conditions and suffer from malnutrition. Worldwide, 1.7 billion people (including 10 million Americans) now carry the germ. Each year, 8 million develop active tuberculosis and 3 million die. I would like to be of help again, if I can.

When I discovered Streptomycin, I was earning \$40 a month. I lived in a small storeroom in a greenhouse at the agricultural experiment station where I did research. I got this room rent-free in exchange for watering the plants, sweeping the floor and other chores. While I was surviving on \$40 a month, the Chairman of the Dept. of Soil Microbiology, S.A. Waksman, was living on a full professor's salary. He also supplemented that income with \$300 a month which he received secretly as a consultant.

Actually, I began the research that led to the discovery of Streptomycin when I was in the army, during World War II.

June-November 1942: I began graduate work in Waksman's department where he assigned me to work on production of fumaric acid and some well-known antibiotics that were toxic.

Nov. 1942-June 1943: I was a laboratory technician in the Medical Detachment of the Air Corps, stationed at an army hospital in Florida. In my off-duty hours, I began looking for a new antibiotic that would be effective in treating bacterial infections which were resistant to penicillin.

June 1943: I was discharged from the army due to an injury, and resumed graduate work. I asked, and Waksman allowed me to continue the search for a new antibiotic which I had begun while in the army. But although I worked in Waksman's department, he was not directly involved in the early stage of my research. There was nothing for him to do. I did not need him or anyone else to tell me what research to do, how to do it or how to interpret results. All the information I needed was available in scientific reports. The term antibiotic (which Waksman erroneously claimed he introduced in 1941) was published by French researchers in 1928, a year before Fleming discovered penicillin. Russian researchers had reported antibiotic-like substances in the 1930s. I translated French and Russian papers as a graduate student. Waksman was not a pioneer, but a Johnny-come-lately to antibiotic research.

Waksman began participating only after I informed him that I had found a new antibiotic which I called Streptomycin. Waksman then had others in the department to confirm my results. But Waksman did not have anyone confirm my results with the deadly tubercle bacillus, against which I tested Streptomycin. Waksman was deathly afraid of it, and with good reason. The tubercle bacillus I used was the most virulent human strain available. That is why Waksman moved me out of his 3rd-floor lab and down to a basement which he never visited while I worked with the tubercle bacillus.

I signed away my Streptomycin patent rights and royalties for 3 reasons. First, I did not want the poor people to have to pay royalties for the privilege of staying alive. Second, I did the Streptomycin research at a state college. I felt that no one should get patent

royalties for work supported by the government. Third, Waksman, whose name was also on the patent application, assured me that he would not receive any royalties.

When I learned in 1952 that Waksman was secretly getting Streptomycin royalties, I started a lawsuit. This revealed that Waksman had already received \$350,000, though he had publicly denied it. The lawsuit also revealed that, prior to and during the time of my research, Waksman had a secret agreement with a pharmaceutical company. He was paid \$300 a month for acting as a consultant. As a consultant he also gave that company information about research results and patent rights before publication. As a result of the lawsuit, I received a small percent of the royalties.

But I was cheated out of the Nobel Prize which was awarded to Waksman for the work I had done. I was also blackballed in the science and academic worlds, because my lawsuit publicized the exploitation of graduate students by professors and universities. I had to use a lot of ingenuity to get jobs, but I never got a job in Soil Microbiology.

I also initiated research that led to the discovery of Nystatin, another antibiotic produced by a soil microbe. My name is not on the Nystatin patent, and I received none of the royalties which amounted to \$13.4 million.

At age 72, my interests now concern the social implications of science which has become big business, the corporate and government take-over of higher education, the present threat of tuberculosis, other health problems for which there are as yet no cures, the deterioration of living conditions for working people all over (I lived in Chile for 3 years 1962-1965), the global devastation of the environment that threatens to make homo sapiens an endangered species, and what I can do about these problems.

Are you a retired wage slave and an active Wobbly? Share your experience! IW, PO Box 4217, Stn E, Ottawa ON K1S 5B2

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One of the 2 monopoly beer corporations in Canada has a TV advert depicting a busker in front of a beer store. Most beer stores can have you fined for trespassing, a \$76 fine; 3 days wages for the seasoned busker. Some buskers find themselves doubling as bilingual tourist info clerks, or bus-change dispensers or a photo op for rude tourists that steal your picture as they walk by without asking or paying. I've even overheard shoppers reassure each other not to pay buskers cause we already get a salary or we're hired by the tourist industry.

The city has even used several buskers' photos in tourist brochures without permission. A few buskers found out that they were in a tourist pamphlet about a year after the fact. They found that they could do little about this exploitation, as it wasn't an infringement on their music, and further more it was a "privilege" to play amidst the happy shoppers.

Ottawa is a capital city with some 5 levels of government.

The National Capital Commission being one of the many, wants to charge for permits now. Their permit prohibits you from playing anywhere but on their shopping mall. Sounds like extortion, as I told the permit bureaucrat. They also give you a plastic pail for your tips, and

if you're really lucky you get to play on a little mini-stage. Most of the farmer vendors don't mind the busking, they feel it enhances the market. People going to the market are going to buy food, and music hardly competes with produce.

There's this honey and syrup vendors who always harass the buskers - to think I've bought syrup and pollen and I even played "the farmer feeds em all," in front of their rented patch of pavement.

Another common response from the boss is "You're trespassing. This is private property". (What an appropriate comment for 1992). The more "reasonable" beer store managers have this theory that street musicians attract pan-handlers, as though pan-handlers would disappear once buskers were banned.

The boss at the beer store near me, likes to phone the police when you ignore him and keep on entertaining the crowd. You can always squeeze in more time before the police arrive anyway. Some police seem to think street musicians are non-threatening anyhow, and take their time to answer calls or don't show unless things are slow. Eventually these officers become familiar and when you see them coming there is usually time to "close shop" and go wait in the park across the street

until they go away. I've mentioned to the beer industry workers this busker commercial on TV, most workers agree that it's exploitive. I've asked some employees if they thought busking was harmful, they usually say, "Personally I like your music but it's my boss..."

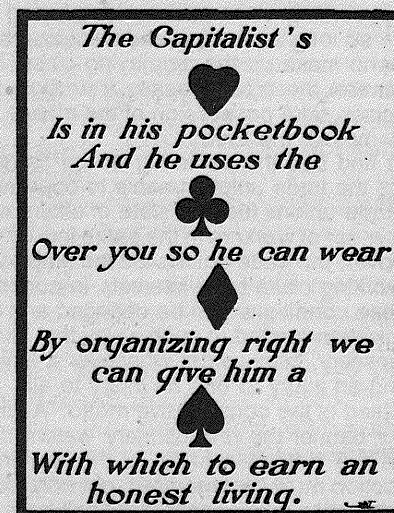
The last episode I had with captain property, was at a beer and liquor store, a really good spot in a yuppie neighborhood. I even got rid of a few songbooks and IU 630 work contracts there. It seems the night workers don't mind buskers but the block is owned by a supermarket, one of these GREEN corporations with huge, slick ad budgets. On one occasion a very irate boss with crossed arms came towards me from the supermarket shaking his head from side to side. He then kicked my case and threatened to break my instrument. Then he tried turning his prize pack-boy on me cause I wouldn't leave. A few months later I went back to the same spot and this time the authority brigade and their rent-a-cop called the police, who put me in the cruiser. Fortunately I avoided the \$76 fine and gave another name.

There are some positive aspects, for example some buskers find that people part with their dollar-coins more easily than the old paper bills. Some people feel the increase in competition has

created more diverse acts and performances. This last summer the local University/community radio station organized a buskers festival, with cash and studio time as awards. Apparently it raised some awareness that street musicians can not be passed off as beggars when a demand exists for live music instead of muzak.

One thing is for certain, people won't stop drinking in the near future, making more work for buskers.

-Pat Blare



In November We Remember

Joe Hill: Don't Mourn - Organize!

Sunrise, November 19, 1915: A migrant worker was shot at Utah State Prison. The execution was ordered by the state as punishment for the murder of a Salt Lake City grocer. The fact that he did not commit the crime, was of little interest to the authorities. What worried them about this particular itinerant farm hand and laborer, was the songs he wrote.

Not just another penniless hobo, this was Joe Hill, and prior to his execution thousands of telegrams and letters came in protest from around the world. Everywhere, workers pitched in a few dollars for his "legal" defense, and Joe Hill's songs were sold in the streets of San Francisco and New York at 5 cents each, to raise funds. The IWW pursued his case to the US Supreme Court.

But the state was determined that this agitator would not get away. They feared Joe Hill so much that they could not wait for true "justice" and instead used the court system as a machine of political assassination. Even in prison, Joe Hill continued to shake the grip of ruling class order. From his cell came volley after volley: *The Rebel Girl*, dedicated to his friend Elizabeth Gurley Flynn, and more songs to inspire workers around the world.

That was the trouble. Wherever Joe Hill went, as a common timber worker, a miner, farm hand or on the railroad, he left bands of workers singing songs of industrial freedom.

In the end, however, the state was powerless against him. The long days of waiting in jail did not discourage him, as quotes from his letters show:

Sept. 15, 1914: "...I am feeling well enough under the circumstances and I am fortunate enough to have the ability to entertain myself and to look at everything from the bright side."

Dec. 2, 1914: "...should have answered before, but I was busy working on some musical composition and whenever I get an 'inspiration' I can't quit until it's finished....there is no use being

pessimistic in this glorious land of plenty." Mar. 22, 1915: "...They are doing great work in New York this year. The unemployed have been organized and have big meetings every night. Gurley Flynn, Geo. Swasey (the human phonograph) and other live ones are there, and Gurley F. tells me things are looking favorable for the OBU."

Aug. 12, 1915: "...I wanted to drop the case right there and then.... I didn't think I'd be worth any more money. You know human life is kind of cheap this year anyway - but I guess the organization thinks otherwise and majority rule goes with me....hoping you are successful in snaring the elusive doughnut..."

Sept. 9, 1915: "...Well, war certainly shows up the capitalist system in the right light. Millions of men are employed at making ships and others are hired to sink them.

Scientific management, eh, wot?...All these silly priests and old maid sewing circles that are moaning about peace at this time should be locked up in the crazy house...The war is the finest training school for rebels in the world and for anti-militarists as well..."

Sept. 30, 1915: "...you shouldn't feel so sentimental about it. This dying business is not quite so bad as it is cracked up to be...I guess I've had my share

of the fun after all. Now, just forget me, and say goodbye to the bunch."

Joe was always thinking of his fellow workers and the class struggle. His last message, a telegram to the IWW and other organizations said: "Goodbye. Forget me. Don't Mourn. Organize." Next morning came the rifle bullets that separated the spirit from his body. Thousands attended the funeral. The body was carried by 6 young women dressed in white, and finally burned, according to his request.

Joe Hill's spirit grew and spread through his music and now, almost 80 years after his murder by the state, his voice is heard loud and clear every time workers get together and sing songs of industrial freedom.

(With excerpts from Joe Hill's letters to Sam Murray)-MV

JOE HILL IWW SONGWRITER



born 1879; executed 1915

IWW PREAMBLE

The working class and the employing class have nothing in common. There can be no peace so long as hunger and want are found among millions of the working people and the few, who make up the employing class, have all the good things of life.

Between these two classes a struggle must go on until the workers of the world organize as a class, take possession of the means of production, abolish the wage system, and live in harmony with the Earth.

We find that the centering of the management of industries into fewer and fewer hands makes the trade unions unable to cope with the ever-growing power of the employing class. The trade unions foster a state of affairs which allows one set of workers to be pitted against another set of workers in the same industry, thereby helping defeat one another in wage wars. Moreover, the trade unions aid the employing class to mislead the workers into the belief that the working class have interests in common with their employers.

These conditions can be changed and the interest of the working class upheld only by an organization formed in such a way that all its members in any one industry, or in all industries if necessary, cease work whenever a strike or lockout is on in any department thereof, thus making an injury to one an injury to all.

Instead of the conservative motto, "A fair day's wage for a fair day's work," we must inscribe on our banner the revolutionary watchword, "Abolition of the wage system."

It is the historic mission of the working class to do away with capitalism. The army of production must be organized, not only for everyday struggle with capitalists, but also to carry on production when capitalism shall have been overthrown. By organizing industrially we are forming the structure of the new society within the shell of the old.

"Slain By Capitalist Interests For Organizing and Inspiring His Fellow Wage Slaves"



Grave of Frank Little, founding member of the IWW
Murdered by copper bosses in 1917 at Butte, Montana

Workers Gather, Commemorate Frank Little

by James G. McGrath

Two dozen people gathered in Butte Montana Aug. 1, to commemorate the murder of Fellow Worker Frank Little in 1917 -- including one of his long lost relatives. Little was lynched by company thugs for organizing copper miners and speaking against World War I.

Little was a founding member of the IWW, and was famous for organizing Free Speech Fights all over the West to defend the right to hold mass meetings on the streets.

A terrible mining accident in Butte, the world's largest copper mine in June of 1917, aroused workers to leave the company-union and organize a real union. The IWW helped the independent union, though it never officially affiliated. In July Little came to help.

Little received a great deal of attention when he spoke to a stadium

full of workers, speaking against the US war effort. On July 31, at 3 am, six masked men burst into Little's boarding room, kidnapped him in his nightclothes, and dragged him behind their car. Finally they beat him and hanged him from a railroad trestle.

The "warning" to other workers failed, however. His funeral parade of 6,000 was the largest ever seen in Butte, and workers continued their strike.

The people who gathered for the 75th anniversary met at the site of the former boarding house, which is now an empty lot. They visited the trestle where the lynching took place and the graveyard where Little's body was buried.

Among those gathered was Don Little, Frank's nephew. FW Mark Ross sang songs, including one written by Frank's sister Dolores, who was also a radical.

Columbus Protest-70 Years Ago

Louis Prisco

When Columbus Day was first celebrated in the United States, not all Italian-Americans joined in. Some 70 years ago, a protest demonstration was held outside a Roman Catholic church in Arctic, Rhode Island. As the predominantly

Italian worshippers emerged from Sunday Mass, they were handed leaflets to read. The message: Do not celebrate Columbus, who began the exploitation of native American peoples by Europeans. Instead, organize labor unions where you work and prepare for the Social Revolution.

Organizers of the action were Italian anarchists and members of a radical Italian theater group. Quite likely some IWW members were involved.

Violence broke out at the demonstration when a group of *fasci*, supporters of Benito Mussolini intervened.

Mussolini "made the trains run on time" by suppressing rail workers who were using direct action techniques. Mussolini's "national syndicalism" policy was to organize employers and workers together into the same unions. Not economic class, but race was what Mussolini preached. He had nothing to offer Italian workers except some sordid

military adventures in Africa.

At the Rhode Island demonstration, police were summoned. They detained the leafletters, while the *fasci* who had started the violence were allowed to go free.

The American capitalist class would later go to war against Mussolini. In the US the *fasci* disappeared and a more moderate organization, the Sons of Italy, arose in the Italian-American community.

Although the Sons of Italy is not fascist, it has also never been known to support unions or workers -- at least not until after the Wobs and other radicals had been replaced by "more respectable" elements.

Ship Builders

Shipyard Workers Must Choose

In June 1989 a public review panel recommended that Canada should require all tankers and barges entering its waters to be double hulled. Double hull tankers prevent oil spills and other toxic spills in the oceans, harbors, and waterways.

This is the kind of product that could be made by ship yard workers whose jobs are at risk due to declining military production.

At St. John's, New Brunswick the government is pushing instead for nuclear reactors to be assembled by shipyard workers, for export to the third world.

Ship yard workers have a choice right now, if they make their voices heard. (*Anti-Poverty News*)

You can help by sending the following letter, or writing a letter of your own.

Prime Minister Mulroney
House of Commons, Ottawa Ont.
K1A 0A6

Dear Mr. Mulroney,

I do not accept the AECL proposal to build CANDU reactors at the Saint John, New Brunswick dock yard. Instead, double hulled tankers and barges should be built to protect the world's oceans, as recommended by the Public Review Panel on Tanker Safety & Marine Spills Response Capability (1989). This will provide jobs for the ship yard workers, making a product which is needed by the whole world.

I look forward to hearing your favorable decision.

Respectfully Yours,

Ship Builders

San Diego "Worker Owners" Strike

After 8 weeks of unsuccessful contract negotiations, almost 3,000 shipyard workers in San Diego walked out on strike against the National Steel & Shipbuilding Company (Nassco) in early October. The strikers belong to Carpenters Local 1300, Electricians Local 5691, Iron Workers Local 627, Machinists Local 389, Operating Engineers Local 12, Painters Local 333, and Teamsters Local 36.

Nassco workers agreed to buy their company in 1989. The agreement with former owner Morrison-Knudsen specified workers would receive 1/3 of all company profits through a stock ownership plan. Instead, 3 years into the plan the average journeyworker wage is now 10 cents less than the

\$12.82 per hour in effect in 1987. The profit sharing bonus has amounted to only 55 cents an hour, paid at each year's end.

Naasco workers want a 3-year contract with a cost of living increase, and hourly wage increases of \$2 the first year and \$1 in each of the remaining 2 years. The strikers are also very concerned about management threats to the seniority system and health benefits.



Metal Mine Workers

Giant Mine Review

In a further display of the shared interests of industry and the state, the city of Yellowknife has granted new development permits to Royal Oak Inc., owner of the Giant Mine, for the construction of bunk houses for scabs living on site at the mine.

Within a week of the blast, chief territorial mine inspector Dave Turner lifted his order closing the mine, calling it "as secure as reasonably possible." It is perhaps coincidental that Royal Oak pres. Peggy Witte said the mine is losing \$110,000 a day and threatened that the mine may close permanently if it stayed shut for another week. Meanwhile, John Smirke, VP of Royal Oak Mines, said the company is spending millions of dollars at the mine just to beef up "security."

Workers/taxpayers are footing the bill for a special 50-member squad of mounties (RCMP) flown up from Edmonton on the 3rd day of the strike that began in May. They have used tear gas and attack dogs to assault picketers.

In a meeting with shareholders in June, shortly after the strike began, Ms. Witte boasted that Royal Oak was using "a very aggressive tactic not common in Canada." She cited the 1983 experience of Phelps-Dodge Corp's mine and smelter in Morenci, Arizona. With the help of scabs and the (tax-funded) National Guard, Phelps-Dodge had resumed production 6 weeks after union workers legally struck. The union was

eventually de-certified in a rigged vote held among the scabs.

Referring to Yellowknife and the Pinkerton guards and RCMP officers, Ms. Witte said, "We are running a military surveillance here," smiling as she described how some guards are equipped with night-vision glasses, eaves-dropping devices and videotape systems.

Early on, Royal Oak hired Cambrian Alliance Protection Services to handle security. The firm lasted 4 days. "I did not agree with what was expected of my people there," said Cambrian president Ray Rose. "It never was a good set-up."

Giant Mine Safety Record Worst in NWT

According to the *Press Independent* of Yellowknife, Giant Mine has the worst safety record of any mine in NWT. In 1990, Royal Oak paid the Workers Compensation Board \$900,000 less than the cost of claims from Giant. The cost of WCB claims in 1991 rose to over \$1.9 million. The WCB's shortfall from Giant was over \$1.2 million.

Giant mine workers and other residents of Yellowknife have postulated that the fatal blast on Sept. 18 was an accident resulting from unsafe conditions in a mine whose owners routinely ignore health and safety laws. Explosives and blasting caps could be found throughout the tunnels. Safety concerns are one of the main reasons

The Giant gold mine in the city of Yellowknife, NWT, was the site of an underground blast on Sept. 18, 1992, which took the lives of 9 scab workers riding in an open rail car.

that the workers took strike action. The strike involves 240 members of Canadian Association of Smelter and Allied Workers (CASAW)

The Royal Canadian Mounted Police, dubbed the "Royal Oak Mounted Police" by strikers, have tried to intimidate union members into becoming informants by threats directed at them and their families.

RCMP raided the offices of the *Press Independent* in July in an attempt to seize videotapes of the RCMP riot squad and Pinkerton's "security" guards attacking picketers on June 14.

Despite Giant Mine's horrendous safety record and the haphazard manner in which explosives are stored throughout the mine property, RCMP issued a press release claiming the blast was deliberately set, and an act of murder.

Union members were stunned to learn of the RCMP's allegations. They branded them a set-up and a sign the RCMP had eliminated company negligence as a possibility.

Jim Evoy, president of NWT Federation of Labour, cautioned that the RCMP claims should not be taken to mean "that the strikers or their supporters perpetrated this crime. Please understand this and understand this well. This does not translate into working people in the North murdering their fellow workers. I hope that is god-damned clear."

The union has called for a public enquiry into the explosion. "A credible enquiry would put the matter to rest for the dead men's families," said Evoy.

The union local has insisted that none of its members was involved in the explosion.

"Everything was going for us, now we're plowed under again," said Harry Seeton, president of the CASAW local. "It was like a big hammer coming down on us."

For those unaware of the RCMP's collusion with capital, this is the police force which, since the beginnings of labour activism in Canada, has been used by the bosses to brutally suppress strikes, arrest, detain, and kill activist workers, and violently intervene against Natives who try to defend their land against corporate rape. It was the RCMP who trained the South African militia which perpetrated the Sharpeville massacre.

There is no doubt the RCMP will attempt to frame one or more strikers in connection with the blast, because that is what the police are for - to serve the ruling class and protect the bosses' property when workers try to take back what is rightfully theirs.

Despite the tremendous pressure on the strikers, the spirit of resistance remains strong in workers like Conrad Lisoway. Lisoway says he will never lose his self-respect. "I'll lose everything I own before I cross that picket line."



Support Needed Leonard Peltier

Michele Vignola of the Leonard Peltier Defense Committee has issued an appeal for help. At Leavenworth Prison where Native American political prisoner Leonard Peltier is being held, the authorities have placed in Leonard Peltier's cell a homicidal prisoner who has already murdered his past cellmate. There is reason to believe that the authorities are hoping to find Leonard dead. Peltier's attorney is planning a legal appeal in the case which noted attorney William Kuntzler says ended in his "conviction for a crime he did not commit."

It is widely believed that Leonard Peltier is being used by the Government as an example of the retaliation that the Government can inflict against Native Americans who try to unite in opposition to their historical and ongoing oppression.

Leonard Peltier slept with one eye open last night. How many nights can he go on fearing that one morning he may never wake up? Please add your voice to protect the life of Leonard Peltier, a brave patriot of his people. Call the Leonard Peltier Defense Committee at (913) 842-5774 (-John DiNardo, gen.nativenet)

Race: how Blacks & Whites think and feel about the American obsession

by Studs Terkel, New Press/NY 1992

Reviewed by Mike Ballard

These are the words and thoughts of workers of all kinds, all hues and ethnic origins.

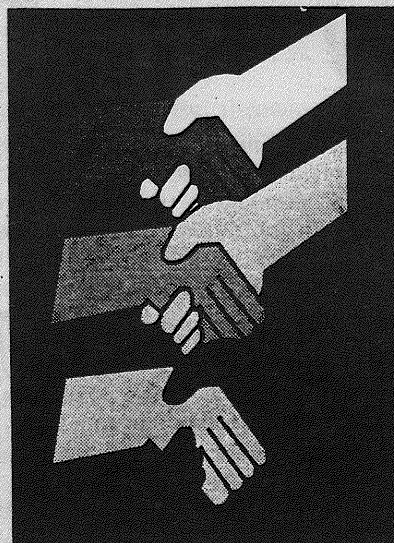
"The black male appears to me to be the one who's having the roughest time. That's why I was so determined for my son not to get a job but get a profession. I told him, 'By the time you're ready, there won't be any jobs.'"

These are ordinary folk.

"I was able to get a job on the fire department during the strike. I come to find out not only did they not want me because I was a damn scab, but also the racial factor. There was just too many black fellows that came in at one time. It was a very hostile environment. I just don't want to go through that again."

Workers, talking about race, racism, and the fear that eats your soul; talking about violence and poverty within the decaying body of advanced capitalist society.

"Before (Martin Luther) King was killed, I was beginning to look at the system; 'Who is the culprit?' I was excited because I was learning things I didn't think I could learn. I never learned in school these new things. I was using the word 'system' instead of the word 'you'. I was beginning to



understand that there's somebody in control that I couldn't get to. It wasn't the person I could see."

Racism is an obstacle to class solidarity. The IWW has always been aware that we're all wage-slaves on this capitalist bus. Organization of the working class as a whole is necessary to get us off this bus ride to nowhere. But all of us, no matter how class-conscious, are stamped by the marks of racism at one level or another.

"In this strike I'm going through now, there's a fellow, he subscribes to one of

these racist magazines, 'White Power' or something. A young fellow, most of them are. Yet we're on the same picket line.

"A scab is a scab is a scab. You don't call an Italian scab a dago. You don't call a Polish scab a Polack. You don't call a black scab a nigger. A scab is a scab is a scab, in my neighborhood."

"I got a real gripe against the top hierarchy of the AFL-CIO in Chicago. They moved a trade school out of the city to keep from training young black men to be electricians. I see abuse and misuse of their power. They bring in a few blacks they can control. There's a white bastion, a good-old-boys club..."

"The owner of our plant lays these magazines around where his white workers can get hold of them. He lets them take them home with them and read them."

"Some of the young guys on the picket line have this concept, but I think they're growing up. They're learning who their enemy really is. It's not the black man, it's not the Hispanic. It's this guy, the owner. Some of these guys voted for me as president. They treat me with respect."

RACE is a pretty good sample of working class opinion. It should help to destroy some of the myths that keep workers from getting together and organizing as a class.

Philadelphia Unions Lose

A serious challenge to the city administration of Philadelphia by municipal workers wound up in defeat. Union leaders accepted a tentative agreement giving the workers no pay increases over 2 years, allowing the city powers to overhaul job descriptions, work rules, schedules, and more, without bargaining. A 16-hour strike by the workers could not stem the tide. How this came about was both amazing and instructive.

AFSCME municipal workers, both white collar (District Council 47) and blue collar (DC 33) were placed in the situation of accepting the government's offer or fighting for their livelihoods. The city used financial problems as an excuse to gut city unions, saying the city needed concessions worth \$98.6 million this year and rising thereafter. A refusal of the offer would result in massive layoffs.

Union leaders answered with threats of union solidarity. This was a problem for the city since a teachers contract was also up for negotiation, and a strike by all 3 unions (50,000 members) would mean an almost complete shutdown of city services.

The administration gained the upper hand through its use of the media and a contingency plan to run the city in the event of a strike. *Philadelphia Enquirer* harped on the financial situation of the city; rather than run articles on the contract or the concerns of the workers, the *Enquirer* ran personality profiles of union leaders along with puff pieces on the "tough" city negotiator. As the teachers' strike deadline approached, the 36-member Philly AFL-CIO Executive Council, representing 250,000 workers, vowed a "general strike" would be called to defeat Mayor Rendell.

This was news to some labor leaders. A Teamster official said it was an

irresponsible statement and he would be "very shocked" if a general strike was called. It soon became obvious that AFL-CIO leadership was divided and could not muster enough support in the streets. They were willing to talk the talk of militant solidarity, but it was all blowing in the wind.

September 4, the hammer fell when the teachers broke ranks and signed a contract. After more unfruitful negotiations and unfavorable court decisions, finally the remaining workers hit the bricks. Rank and file participation was militant and creative. Days before the strike, garbage workers in large numbers began turning in their trucks for minor repairs. Parts of the city began to resemble a land fill. Equipment at the waterworks malfunctioned causing thousands of dollars damage. On the night of the big football game between the Eagles and Cowboys, union electricians threatened to turn off the stadium lights. The city was forced to hire people to guard the electrical outlets.

October 6, workers blockaded every municipal building in Philadelphia.

Unfortunately the strike ended after 16 hours, when union negotiators caved in and accepted a terrible contract. As the announcement was read, many striking workers shouted, "What are the terms?" The day ended with many workers wondering what was in store for them and their unions. The Mayor went on TV proclaiming the contract was fair.

If labor is ever going to win one, there is going to have to be solidarity from start to finish. In Philadelphia this was not the case.

-Jeff Kelly

Letters

continued from page 2

prison system a disillusioned and fearful young man, to begin a lifetime of incarceration. I was absolutely devastated. Such was the effect on me that I was placed in the prison hospital for a year.

During this period it began to dawn on me that unless I found strength, the people who had fabricated evidence and committed perjury against me would win, and the fact that I had done nothing wrong would be swallowed up in the black hole of hypocrisy. I witnessed the indiscriminate brutality of drunken prison "hospital" warders against a young helpless teenage prisoner which I think shocked me more than the fact I was in prison for a crime I did not commit.

It became apparent, as I listened to the screams of prisoners being subjected to "administrative procedures," that to survive this nightmare strength indeed had to prevail.

I then began and continue today to highlight my situation against the ever-thickening bureaucrat brick wall of bigotry which is the criminal justice system. The amount of mail I send out each week is curtailed by the number of stamps I can purchase.

Because I could not succumb to the prison environment, nor turn my head and pretend I could not see what was happening, the prison authorities took this to be a manifestation of subversiveness. I soon began to find myself in the segregation unit for disciplinary charges. My mail, incoming and outgoing, began on occasions to not

reach its destination. I was subjected to long times in solitary confinement, in the interest of good order and discipline, while to my cell at night came prison wardens to implement an "administrative procedure."

I was being forced to live in an environment where every effort was made to break people. Systematically, to get them to succumb to the de-personalization process and to act selfishly in an atmosphere of fear and intrigue, mindless disciplines, arbitrary degradation, and deliberate insult; being at the same time deprived of even the simplest positive emotional, sensual or spiritual experience. Never a pretty picture, a kind word, or a sincere handclasp.

I became aware that prison is not just meant to punish a man for a few years. It is rather intended to destroy his personality and spirit, his heart in such a way that it can never heal completely. Prison seems to me something like a futuro-logical laboratory of totalitarianism.

Anyway it's been nice talking to you and I hope this finds you with a smile in your heart. Take care. Unbowed and unbroken,

Mark Stonerseed #3F2071
Special Unit-HM Prison Hull

Hedon R2 - Hull

N Humberside - HU9 5LS

(Accompanying documents indicate that M. Stonerseed was framed for arson, with the only evidence being a couple who claimed they heard him say he set the fire, but there was no evidence of arson in the first place.-ed.)

National Survival Summit Day of Action Nov. 26

All social activists are invited to join a national network taking direct action on issues of homelessness, hunger, economic and social justice. This national movement includes Food Not Bombs, Nat. Union of Homeless, Nat. Welfare Rights Union, Nat. Anti-Hunger Coalition, Louisiana Welfare Rights, Kansas Union of Homeless, and Women's Economic Agenda Project, among others.

Survival Summit groups have in the recent past set up tent cities in Ann Arbor, Flint, Detroit, Lansing, Michigan, and in Tompkins Park, New York City. Housing takeovers have been done in Michigan, New York, Minnesota, Utah, California, and Pennsylvania.

One Summit group, Food Not Bombs, donated a large amount of food for Lehigh Valley Bingo Workers in their ongoing struggle against a malodorous employer.

The current campaign called "Up and Out of Poverty Now," calls for housing actions on Thanksgiving Day (US), Nov. 26. Direct housing takeovers are encouraged where possible, along with actions to address the need for jobs, education, and food for our children.

National Survival Summit campaign members are planning actions in Detroit, Oakland, Philadelphia, Salt Lake City, Boston, New Orleans, Miami and Los Angeles. Get in touch and give them a hand, or do your own thing. For info contact:

Up & Out of Poverty Now, 13220 Highland Park, Detroit MI 48203. tel: 313/868-3660 voice mail: 313/358-9885. Voices From The Front Newsletter, 1340 E Washington Lane, Philadelphia PA 19138. tel: 215/224-9890 (or any member organization).

Join the Industrial Workers of the World

For info, contact:

IWW, 1095 Market St. #204, San Francisco CA 94103.

tel: 415/863-WOBS

Or your nearest delegate - See IWW Directory page 2.



Rail Workers & Working Class Solidarity

By Joseph Trepper

In another open assault on U.S. workers' right to strike, the Democratic-controlled Congress, urged by President Bush and the rail companies, ordered railroad workers back to work under binding arbitration. After 1500 striking IAM machinists set up picket lines at CSX rail yards June 25, hundreds of thousands of rail workers were locked out across the US by 38 rail companies - who then demanded that Congress end the 'impasse.'

Since many other lines use the same rail tracks as CSX, union leaders pointed out that this was a company lockout. "They have locked out every freight employee in the country and are holding the American people hostage by creating a severe economic emergency," said Joel Myron, negotiator for the Bro. of Maintenance of Way Employees. "They're playing Congress for a sucker."

But Congress was not a sucker, it was a co-conspirator with the rail companies. Over a year ago, Robert Schmiede, CEO at the Chicago & North Western line, proposed in a letter to other railroad bosses a united strategy to defeat the unions.

"Railroads need a legal framework which makes it difficult for unions to create economic tests of strength," wrote Schmiede. "Railroads need a framework that permits us to tactically manage the sequencing of the bargaining and mediation phases." This letter was released in the June 1992 issue of a rail magazine called *Straight Track*. (*Straight Track* can be ordered from 3948 Central Ave. NE, Minneapolis, MN 55421.)

The plan worked out by company managers over the last year was to create a "national transportation crisis" by refusing to seriously negotiate with the unions. By forcing the rail workers to strike, and then shutting down the entire rail system, the rail bosses could go to Congress to get binding arbitration, with the Bush administration picking the settlement.

Wages have fallen significantly for Conrail workers. Since deregulation, the average 15-year Maintenance of Way employee makes \$26,000/year. A 1st-year trackperson on Amtrak with a spouse and 3 children is qualified for food stamps and housing assistance.

It should have been no surprise to union leaders that Congress would not

allow rail workers to strike. Last August, after a strike of 2 days, Congress ordered 235,000 railroad workers back to work in a 400-to-5 vote that outlawed the strike and imposed a management-designed concession settlement. This has led to the loss of tens of thousands of jobs as well as worsening health and safety conditions on the track.

Virtually the entire leadership of the rail unions has refused to expose the responsibility of Congress as it allows management to destroy safety in the rail industry. Aware of the collaboration between railroad bosses, Congress and Bush, most of the leadership of the rail unions did nothing to mobilize the rest of the labor movement to back the right to strike.

They refused to organize labor demonstrations aimed at Congress to defend the right to strike and protest the attacks on health and safety conditions. They did not even prepare their own membership to understand what they were facing.

This did not stop some locals from organizing solidarity rallies. In the San Francisco Bay Area, UTU Local 1730,

Union Pacific brakemen and switchers, called a rally at the Oakland yard and demanded that Congress stay out of their fight with management.

War against rail labor

The war against rail labor must be answered by a new strategy when the major rail contracts expire in 1995. Rail workers should begin to prepare now for a real national rail strike that will have the backing of the entire working class. Rail workers should begin to have joint solidarity conferences with Teamsters and longshoreworkers on both coasts to prepare for 1995. The support of rail workers for longshoreworkers could be an important question in the upcoming West Coast ILWU-PMA contract negotiations in 1993.

Planning for REAL SOLIDARITY in the transportation industry is critical. Preparation is also going ahead to establish a labor computer electronic conference that would link up all railroad workers in the United States, Canada and Mexico. -Extracted from: *The Organizer* 4017 24th St. #19 San Francisco, CA 94114. (12 issues, \$12.)

MUSIC

LOOK TO THE LEFT

Anne Feeney

New album from Pittsburgh's rocking Wobblies. "Scabs", "National Health Cre Now", "Ain't I a Woman", "We Just Come to Work Here", and "We Do the Work". ALSO AVAILABLE "UNITED WE BARGAIN, DIVIDED WE BEG"

GOOD NEWS

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Dakota Sid Clifford

Veteran musician/activist sings about the "Greenfire" in a wolves eyes, being a "Legendary Folk Rumor", small towns and growing older. Neighbor Utah guests on the insurrectionary "We Want the Whole Thing Back."

ALL USED UP

Utah Phillips

Classic Utah Phillips album. Wobbly songs, bum songs and love songs. "Dump the Bosses Off Your Back", "Pretty Boy Floyd" and 17 more!

OUT OF DARKNESS

Tom Juravich

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HAYWIRE MAC

Harry McClintock

Songs and early Wobbly stories from Haywire Mac, friend of Joe Hill and first to sing "Preacher and the Slave" in public Recorded in '50s.

SMASH THE STATE & HAVE A NICE DAY

Citizen's Band

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Linda Allen

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Martin Sprouse, editor

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Eugene W. Johnson was one of 26 coal miners killed by the May 9 explosion at Westray Mine near Westville, Nova Scotia. His widow, Donna Johnson, writes: "This song meant a lot to Eugene for it reflects the love he had for his vocation, the love for his co-workers, the pride he had for this town and above all, the love he had for his family. Eugene wrote this song in 1983 when he worked at Drummond Coal Mine at Westville."

Westville Miners

by Coal Mine Worker Eugene W. Johnson
Killed May 9, 1992

(c)1992 Donna Johnson, Westville Nova Scotia



It's five in the morning the old alarm clock goes
We jump out of bed and put on our clothes
Off to the kitchen to make something to eat
After we finish we put our boots on our feet
Grab our lunch cans and its off to the mine
To do a day's work buddy it's almost time



chorus:

We are the Westville Miners so tall and so proud
I'll say it again and we'll say it out loud
We are the Westville Miners so tall and so proud
And that's what I think and I'll tell you right now

Down in the ground where few men dare go
Deep in the mine to dig that black gold
What it's like few men really know
To go down underground and dig that black coal



As I was talking to a fine friend one day
He asked what's it like to make a living that way
To go down in the ground where rats you do find
Deep in the mine where the sun never shines



After we finish and our day's work is done
We shower up and it's home on the run
Can't wait to get there for our darlings to see
And our children waiting there for me

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WOMEN WORKERS' HISTORY

Chapter 67

Protection for Whom?

With the right to vote won, the Women's Trade Union League campaigned for legislation regulating women's hours and other conditions of work. The WTUL regarded such legislation as working women's best protection against exploitation.

Protective legislation curbed abuses, but proved a double-edged sword by excluding women from certain occupations. After World War I, thousands of New York women working as street-car operators, typesetters and telegraphers lost their jobs when the state legislature banned some kinds of night work by women.

Male-dominated craft unions welcomed protective legislation as a way of keeping women out of their trades. This came as no surprise to feminists like Alice Paul of the National Women's Party, who declared, "Men are not going to make laws which will place women in a position of industrial competition with them." The NWP gained the mistrust of female trade unionists by lining up with big business to oppose protective legislation.



Conflict sharpened in 1923 when the NWP proposed an Equal Rights Amendment that would have outlawed protective legislation. Said Melinda Scott of the United Textile Workers: "The National Women's Party does not know what it is to work 10 or 12 hours a day in a factory; so they do not know what it means to lose an eight-hour day law. The working women do know, and that's why they are unanimously opposing this amendment."

The real answer lie in union organization, but the American Federation of Labor was unwilling to take on the job of organizing the millions of unorganized workers, male and female.



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Induction Ceremony for Child Employees of a Supermarket Corporation

-INSIDE-

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